

MICHAEL TURNER'S
FEATHOM
KATNI



MICHAEL TURNER'S
7 FATHOM
REVENGE



VINCE HERNANDEZ
—Story—

GIUSEPPE CAFARO
—Pencils—

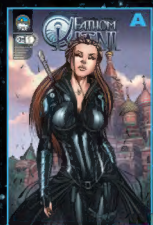
WES HARTMAN
—Colors—

JOSH REED
—Letters—

FATHOM: KIANI VOLUME THREE
— BOOK ONE OF FOUR —

OUT OF THE HEAT & INTO THE FIRE

DURING THE EVENTS OF "THE ELITE SAGA," KIANI AND HER MOTHER ANYA, ALONG WITH ASPEN MATTHEWS, ATTEMPTED TO RETRIEVE HER KIDNAPPED SISTER ANIKA FROM THE CLUTCHES OF A VENGEFUL AMALGAMATION OF THEIR PAST ALLY CANNON HAWKE AND HIS NEMESIS TARAS. HOWEVER, THEIR STEADFAST DETERMINATION TO RESCUE THE NEWBORN ULTIMATELY LED TO A TRAGIC SERIES OF EVENTS, CULMINATING IN THE VANISHING OF ANIKA. NOW, KIANI HAS SET ADrift, DISTANCING HERSELF FROM THE BLUE AND THEIR ENDLESS CYCLE OF VIOLENCE—BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY—HER PAST LIFE...



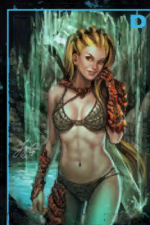
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OLNA RESEARCH FACILITY.

VLADIVOSTOK, RUSSIA.

PEOPLE ASK
ME WHY WE
ARE HERE.*

WHY DO WE RISK OUR
SAFETY...OUR LIVES...
OUR EXISTENCE...

...ARE WE MAD?

EDITOR'S NOTE:
TRANSLATED
FROM RUSSIAN.



I SAY,
WE ARE THE VERY
OPPOSITE.



FOR THE
FIRST TIME IN OUR
HISTORY-- WE CAN SAY
WE IN FACT *DO* KNOW WHAT
IS OUT THERE BEYOND
OUR REACH.

WHERE,
IN FACT, OUR
REACH HAS
EXPANDED.



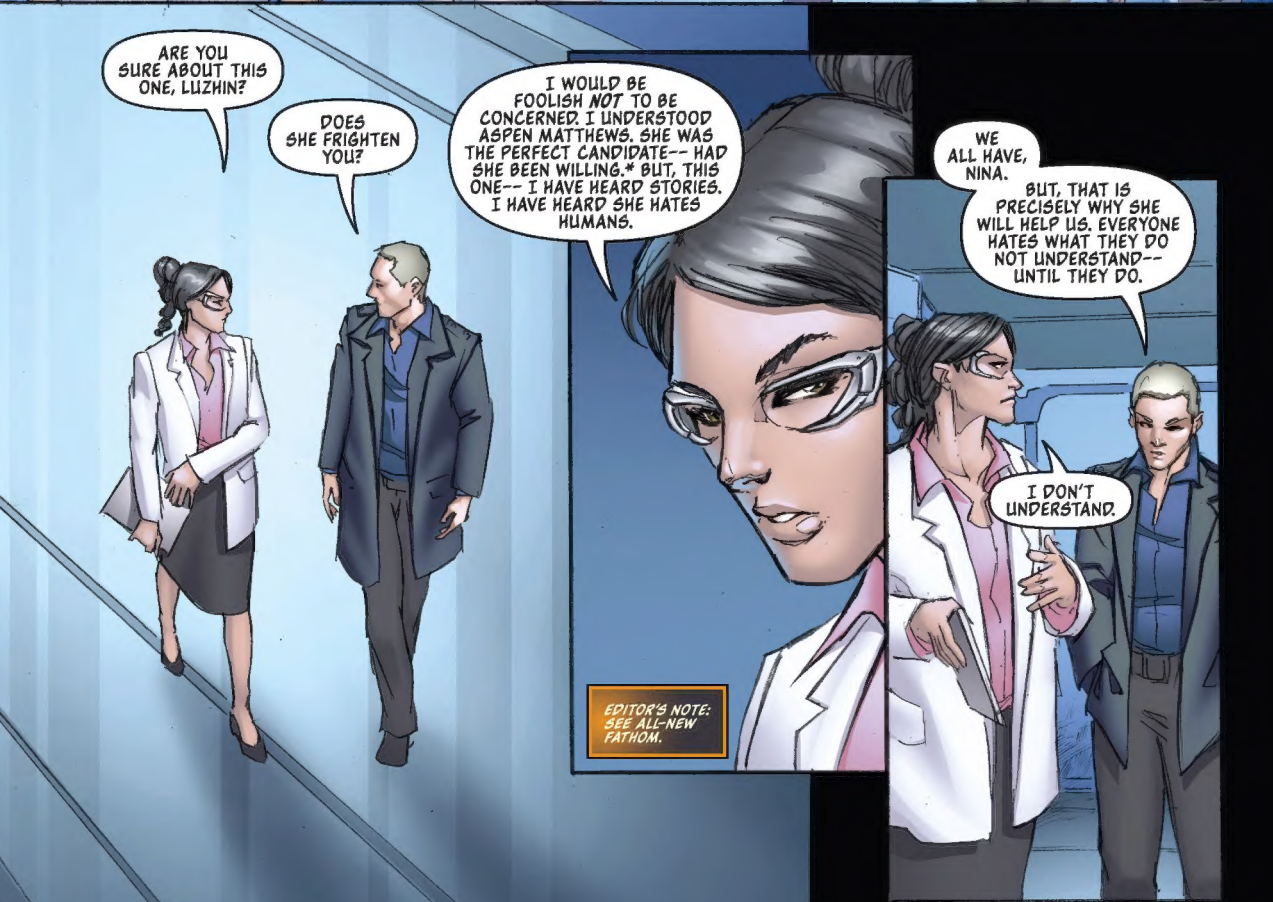
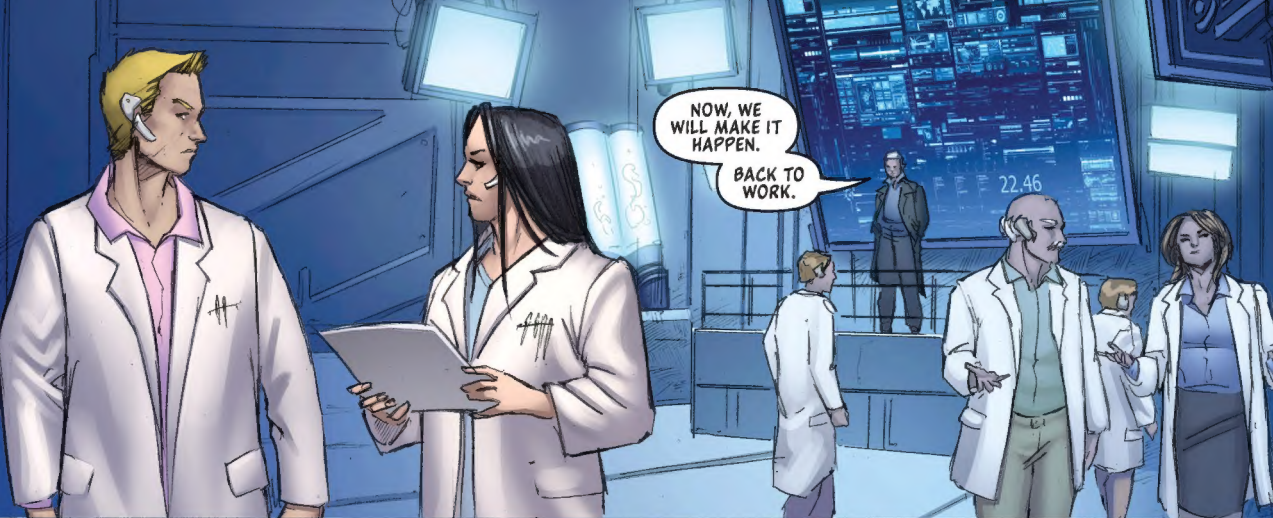
WE KNOW
THEY ARE OUT
THERE, AND WE
LEARN MORE ABOUT
THEM WITH EACH
PASSING DAY...



...AND IN TURN--
WE WILL LEARN
ABOUT *OURSELVES*,
AND WHAT WE CAN
ACHIEVE.

CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP

CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP



*I*SLA HORNOS, CHILE.

THE TIP OF SOUTH AMERICA.

WHERE DO I GO
FROM HERE?

WHEN THERE IS NOTHING LEFT TO
REACH FOR-- WHEN EVERYTHING
I HELD DEAR WAS WASHED
AWAY-- WHAT DO I DO, NOW?

I RISE.

THE AIR IS NEVER EASY TO ACCLIMATE TO
MY BODY, BUT RIGHT NOW MY CLOUDED
MIND HELPS BLOCK AWAY THE MEMORIES...

...AND WHAT I LOST.

IT IS QUIET. NOT A TRAIT
KNOWN TO HUMANS.

UM...
HELLO...?

OR, MAYBE,
I SPOKE
TOO SOON.



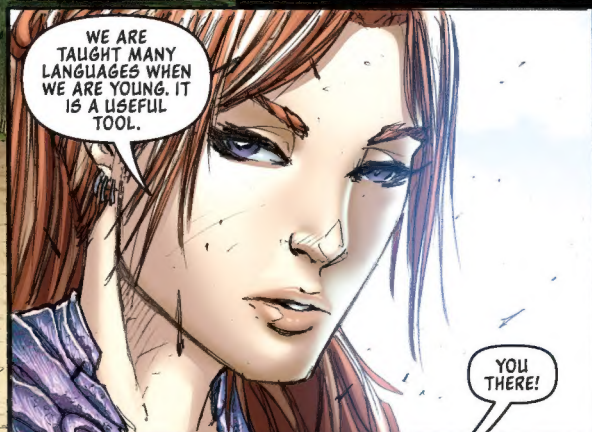
I SAW YOU
COME OUT OF
THE WATER. DO
YOU... NEED
HELP?

YOU ARE
SPEAKING SPANISH
CORRECT?*



YOU ARE ONE OF
THEM... YET, YOU CAN
SPEAK SPANISH?

EDITOR'S NOTE:
TRANSLATED
FROM SPANISH.



WE ARE
TAUGHT MANY
LANGUAGES WHEN
WE ARE YOUNG. IT
IS A USEFUL
TOOL.

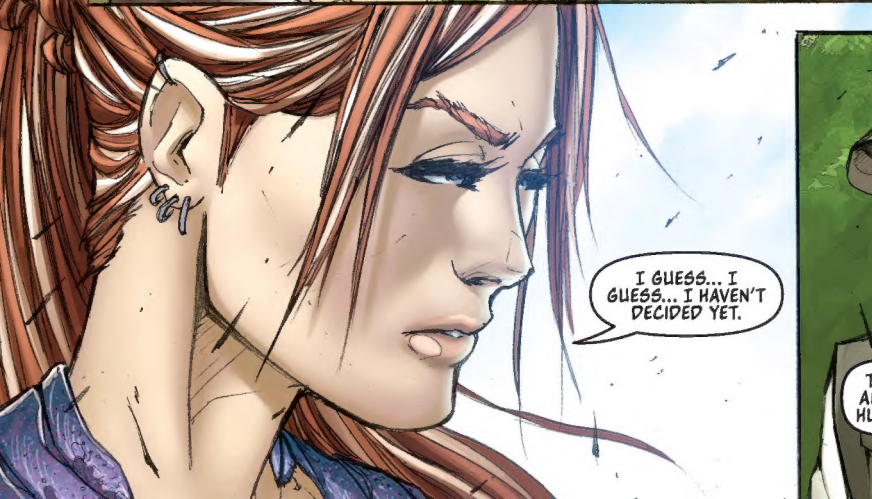
YOU
THERE!



DANTE--
ARE YOU
OKAY?

PAPA, SHE
CAN SPEAK
LIKE US!

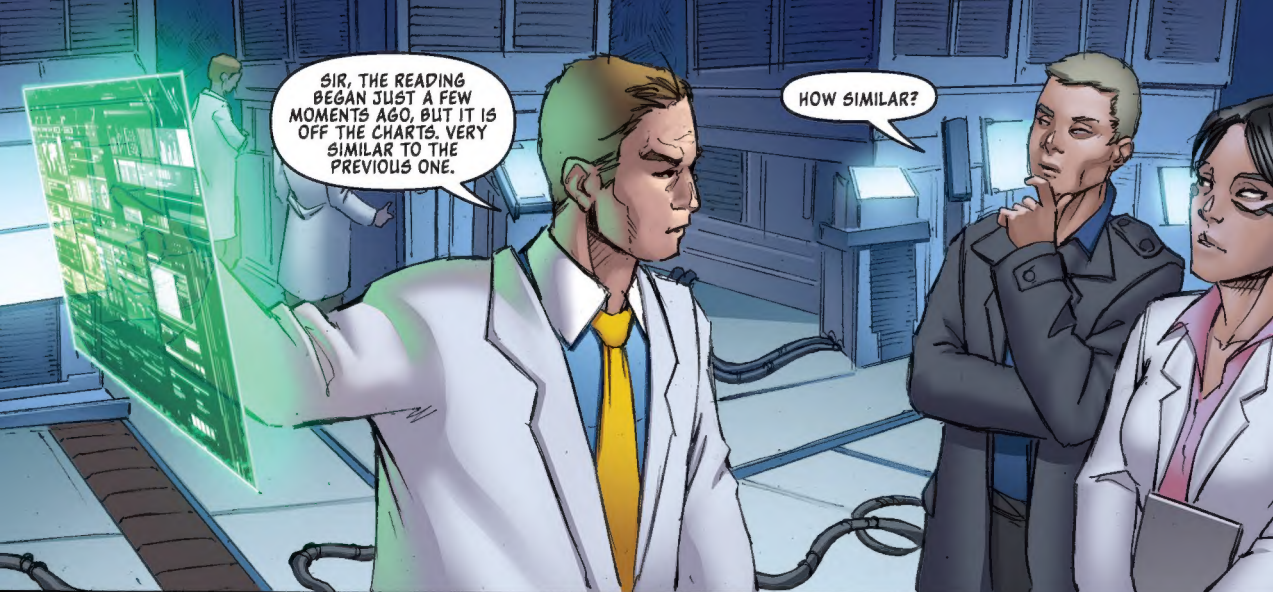
ARE YOU...
ARE YOU GOING TO
HURT US...?



I GUESS... I
GUESS... I HAVEN'T
DECIDED YET.



THEN...
ARE YOU
HUNGRY?



SIR, THE READING
BEGAN JUST A FEW
MOMENTS AGO, BUT IT IS
OFF THE CHARTS. VERY
SIMILAR TO THE
PREVIOUS ONE.

HOW SIMILAR?



NEARLY
AN IDENTICAL
MATCH.

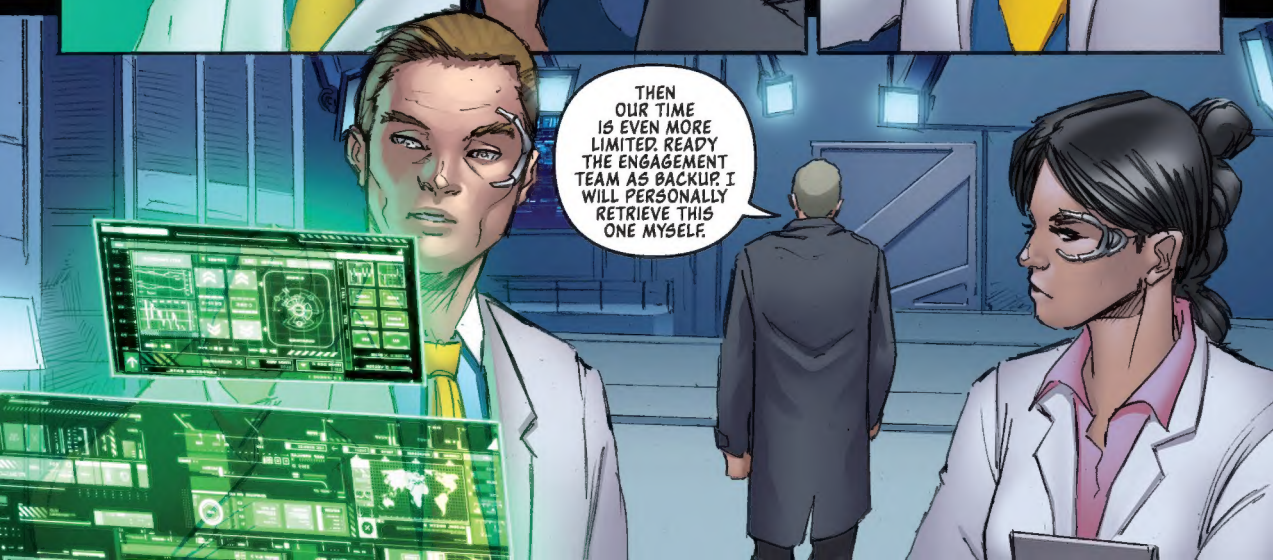


IT IS
HER.



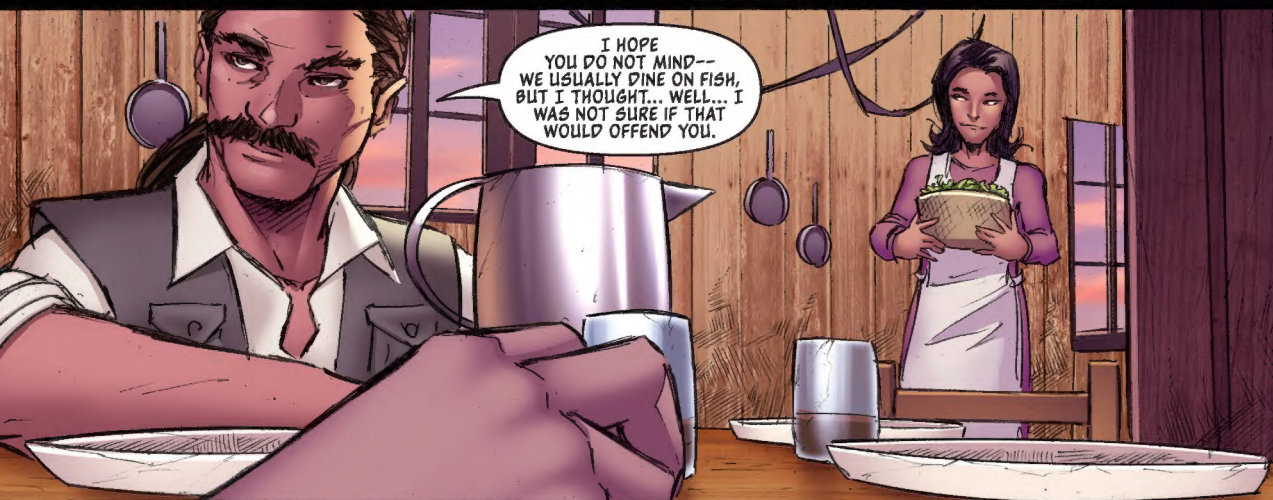
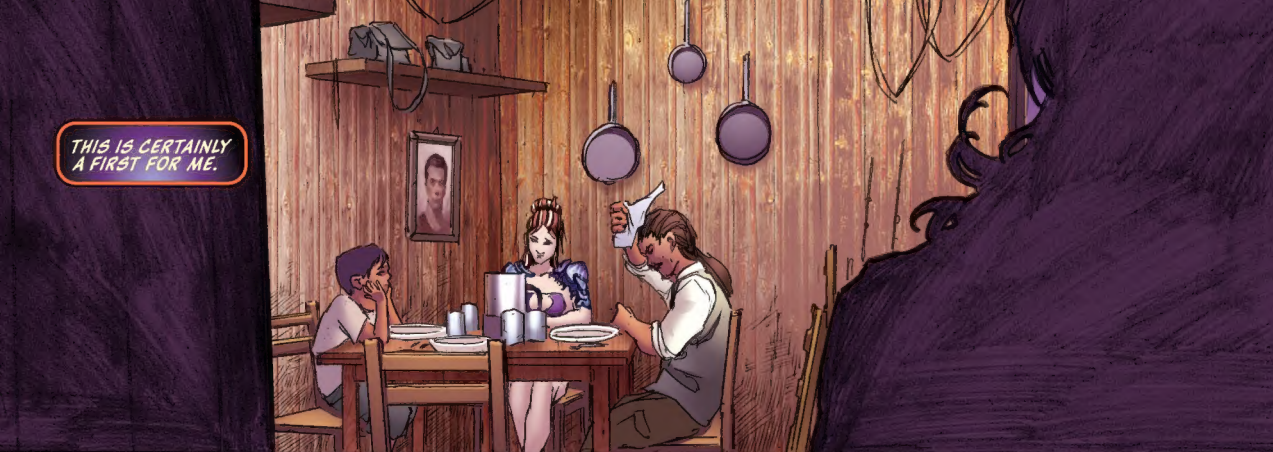
BUT,
SIR... THERE'S
MORE.

THE SIGNATURE IS
COMING FROM ABOVE
THE SURFACE.



THEN
OUR TIME
IS EVEN MORE
LIMITED. READY
THE ENGAGEMENT
TEAM AS BACKUP. I
WILL PERSONALLY
RETRIEVE THIS
ONE MYSELF.

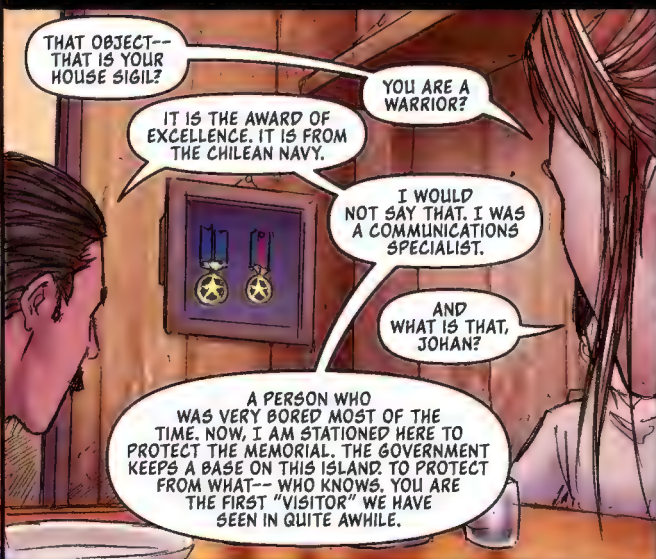
THIS IS CERTAINLY
A FIRST FOR ME.





INTERESTING.

I KNOW WHAT YOU MUST THINK. BUT, I AM NOT THAT PERSON ANY MORE. THE ANGER I HOLD IN MY HEART IS DIRECTED INWARD.



THAT OBJECT-- THAT IS YOUR HOUSE SIGIL?

IT IS THE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE. IT IS FROM THE CHILEAN NAVY.

YOU ARE A WARRIOR?

I WOULD NOT SAY THAT. I WAS A COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST.

AND WHAT IS THAT, JOHAN?

A PERSON WHO WAS VERY BORED MOST OF THE TIME. NOW, I AM STATIONED HERE TO PROTECT THE MEMORIAL. THE GOVERNMENT KEEPS A BASE ON THIS ISLAND. TO PROTECT FROM WHAT-- WHO KNOWS. YOU ARE THE FIRST "VISITOR" WE HAVE SEEN IN QUITE AWHILE.



HEH. WE HAVE THOSE POSITIONS AS WELL DOWN THERE.

THIS... SALAD, DID YOU SAY? IT IS QUITE FLAVORFUL.



ISABELLA IS A BRILLIANT COOK.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO AS MUCH AS YOU'D LIKE. AFTER YOU ARE FINISHED, I WILL SHOW YOU AROUND THE ISLAND. BUT, FIRST, LET'S FIND YOU SOMETHING TO COVER UP.

THIS FEELS...
ODD.

IT SUITS
YOU.

I HAVE
NEVER WORN
SUCH ATTIRE. ONLY
WHAT I NEED FOR
BATTLE.

UP HERE-- ABOVE THE
SURFACE I MEAN-- APPEARANCE IS
OFTEN THE MOST IMPORTANT BATTLE.
UNFORTUNATELY WE ARE OFTEN JUDGED
BY IT. UP HERE THEY MIGHT CALL
YOU A MODEL.

A WHAT?

SOMEONE
WHO IS PAID TO
LOOK PRETTY.

SOUNDS...
UNFULFILLING.

VERY.

SO, MAY
I ASK, WHAT
HAS BROUGHT
YOU ABOVE THE
SURFACE?

IT IS
COMPLICATED.

HEH.
YOU SOUND
VERY MUCH
LIKE A HUMAN
ALREADY.

IN A LOT OF
WAYS, WE ARE SIMILAR.
I AM ABOUT AS CONFUSING
TO MY OWN PEOPLE AS YOUR
KIND. I HAVE NEVER BEEN
UNDERSTOOD... OR
ACCEPTED.



THAT IS WHY I
CAME HERE.

TO ESCAPE
IT ALL

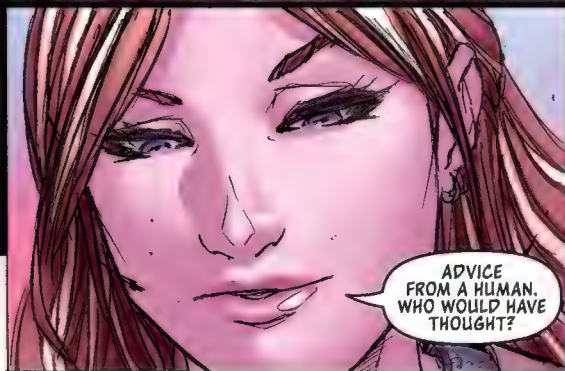
I LOST SOMETHING... SOMEONE WHO
WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO ME. EVEN
THOUGH I NEVER KNEW HER, SHE
WAS MY CHANCE TO START OVER.

...TO BE SOMEONE ELSE.
AFTER THAT, I JUST...
SWAM. FOR WHAT SEEMED
LIKE AN ETERNITY. UNTIL
I DECIDED TO LEAVE THE
WATER. ALTOGETHER.

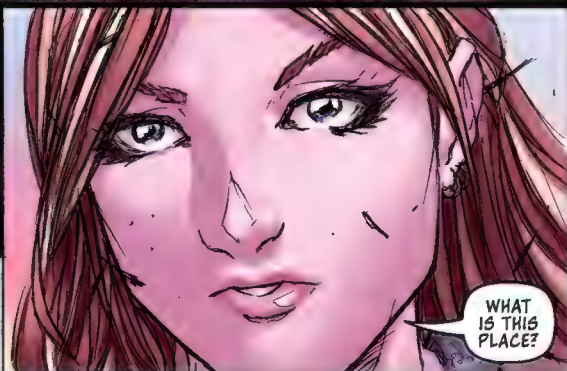


YOU KNOW...
THERE IS STILL
TIME. YOU CAN
ALWAYS START
OVER.

I AM
LEARNING
THAT.



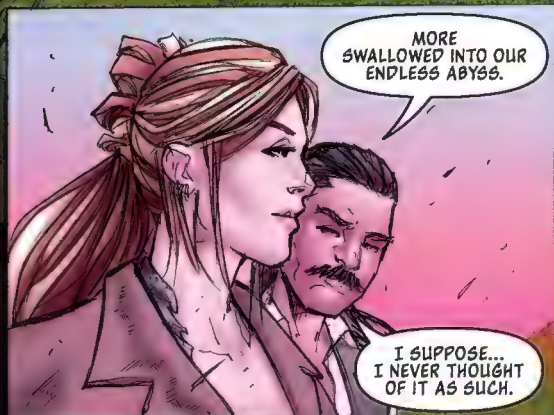
ADVICE
FROM A HUMAN.
WHO WOULD HAVE
THOUGHT?



WHAT
IS THIS
PLACE?



IT IS A
MEMORIAL FOR
THE FALLEN SAILORS.
THOSE WHO HAVE DIED
TRYING TO NAVIGATE
THOSE WATERS
BEYOND.



MORE
SWALLOWED INTO OUR
ENDLESS ABYSS.

I SUPPOSE...
I NEVER THOUGHT
OF IT AS SUCH.



THEY
HAVE ALWAYS
CONSIDERED YOUR
KIND THE ENEMY.
LITTLE HAVE WE
ASKED OURSELVES
WHAT OUR HOME
DOES TO
YOU.

SANTIAGO, CHILE.



MR. LUZHIN,
A PLEASURE TO
FINALLY MEET.*

YOUR
CONTRIBUTIONS
TO OUR COUNTRY'S
CAUSE WERE OVERWHELMING.
WHATEVER WE CAN DO
TO BE OF ASSISTANCE...
CONSIDER IT
DONE.

CONSIDER
THE PLEASURE
MINE.

I APPRECIATE
THE HOSPITALITY. WE
HOPE TO RETRIEVE THE
TARGET QUICKLY... AND
WITHOUT COLLATERAL
DAMAGE. REST
ASSURED.

EDITOR'S NOTE:
TRANSLATED
FROM SPANISH.



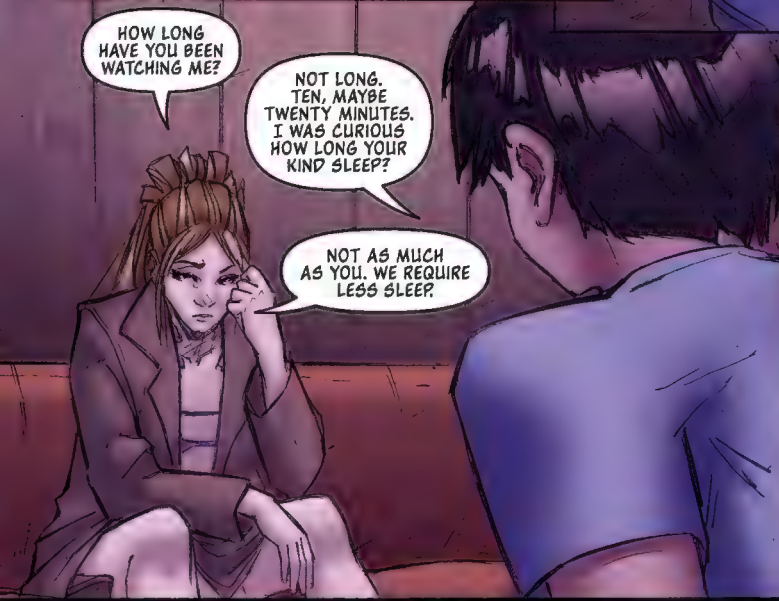
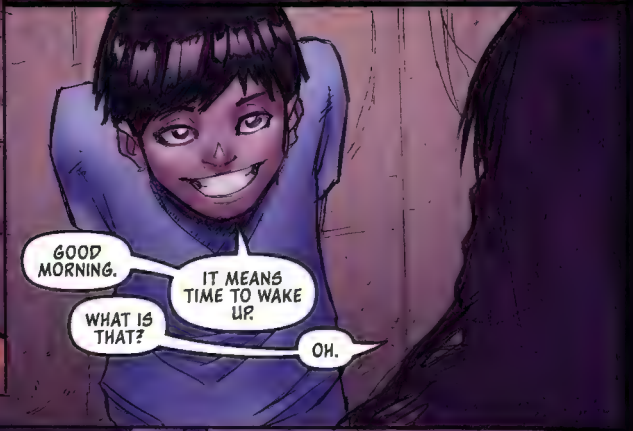
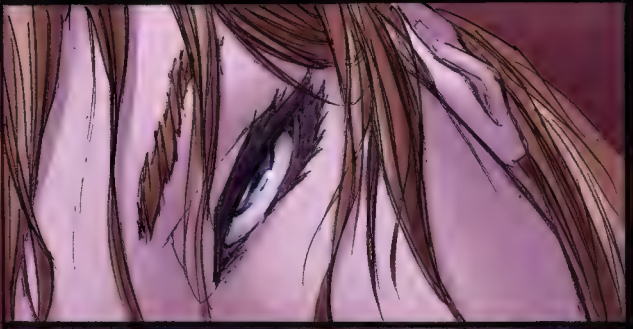
YOU ARE HERE FOR
BACKUP AND CONTAINMENT
PURPOSES ONLY. YOUR GOAL
IS TO REMAIN UNSEEN UNLESS
I GIVE THE COMMAND.
UNDERSTOOD?*

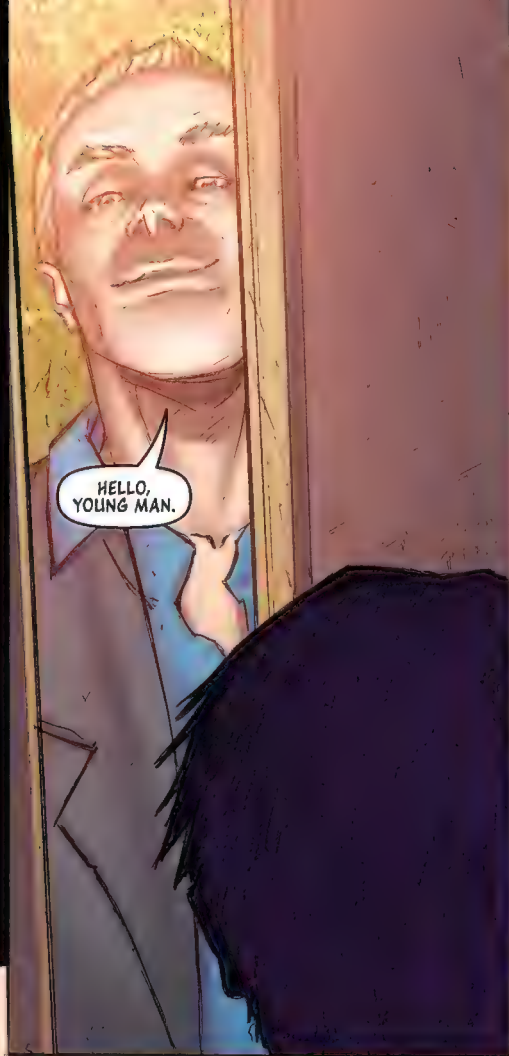
YES, SIR!

EDITOR'S NOTE:
TRANSLATED
FROM RUSSIAN.



NOW,
LET US FIND
OUR PRIZE.

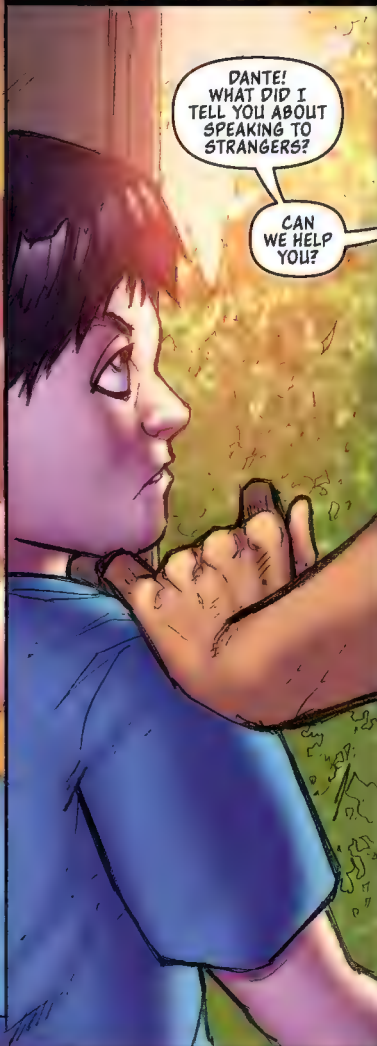




HELLO,
YOUNG MAN.



ARE
YOUR PARENTS
HOME?



DANTE!
WHAT DID I
TELL YOU ABOUT
SPEAKING TO
STRANGERS?

CAN
WE HELP
YOU?



I SURE HOPE
SO. I AM FYODOR LUZHIN,
THE FOUNDER OF THE VOLNA
RESEARCH FACILITY IN MY
HOMELAND OF VLADIVOSTOK,
FUNDED BY THE RUSSIAN
GOVERNMENT.

WE HAVE REASON
TO BELIEVE YOU HAVE
COME INTO CONTACT WITH
A CITIZEN OF THE BLUE.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT
THAT IS?

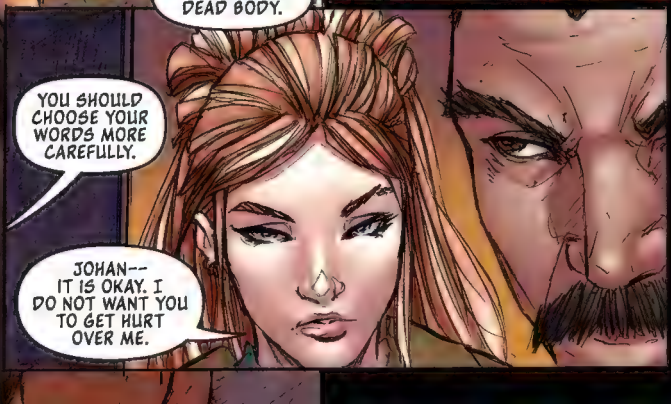
OF
COURSE.
EVERYONE
DOES.

BUT, THAT DOESN'T
MEAN I WILL LET YOU ENTER
MY HOME. WHAT BUSINESS DO
THE RUSSIANS HAVE IN CHILE,
ANYWAYS?

PLEASE, SIR,
I DO NOT MEAN TO
BE RUDE. YET, IF YOU
ARE WITHHOLDING
CRITICAL--
--AND POSSIBLY
DANGEROUS--

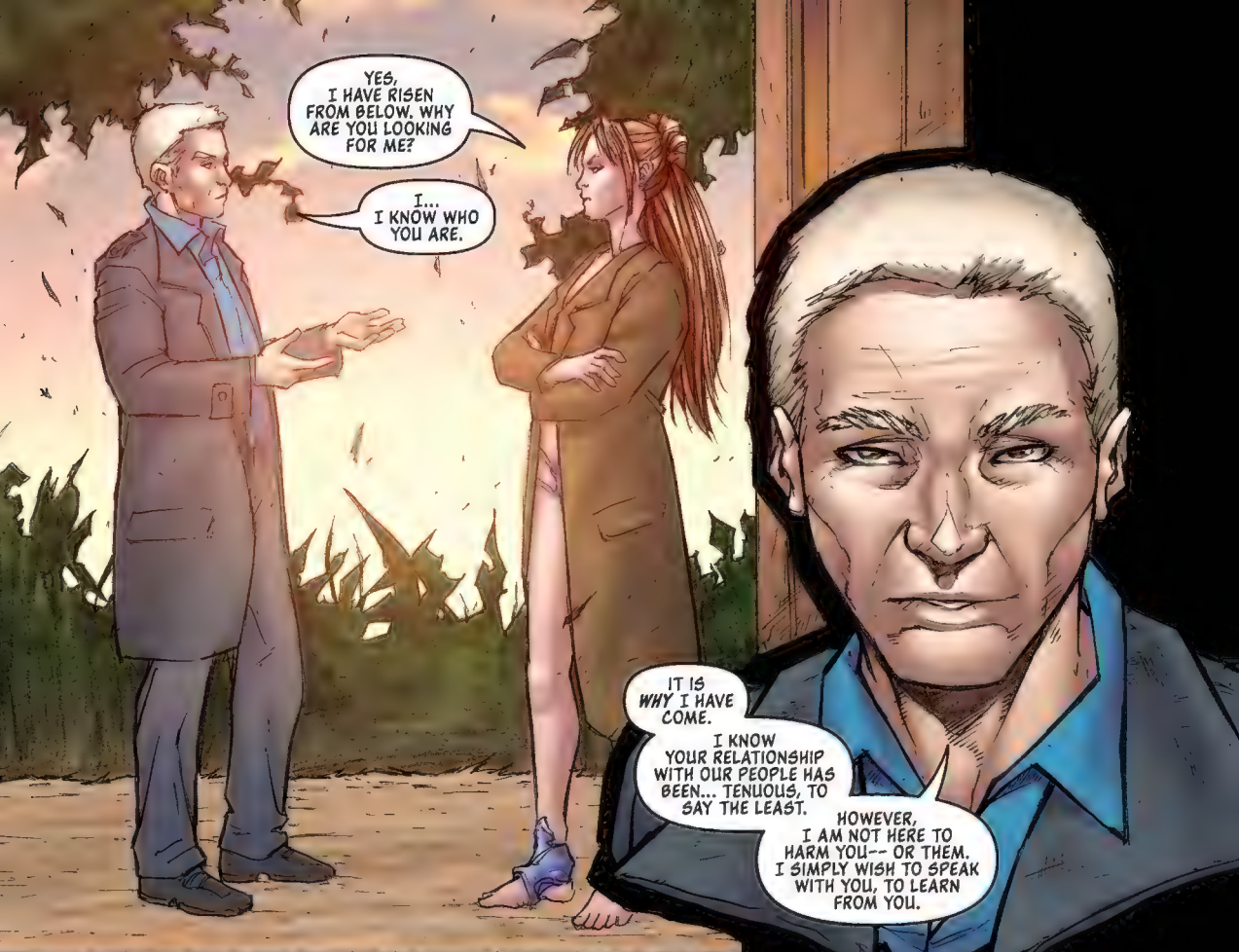
--INFORMATION.
IN GOOD FAITH I
CANNOT ALLOW
YOU TO KEEP IT
SECRET.

YOU WILL
ENTER OVER MY
DEAD BODY.



YOU SHOULD
CHOOSE YOUR
WORDS MORE
CAREFULLY.

JOHAN--
IT IS OKAY. I
DO NOT WANT YOU
TO GET HURT
OVER ME.



YES,
I HAVE RISEN
FROM BELOW. WHY
ARE YOU LOOKING
FOR ME?

I...
I KNOW WHO
YOU ARE.

IT IS
WHY I HAVE
COME.

I KNOW
YOUR RELATIONSHIP
WITH OUR PEOPLE HAS
BEEN... TENUOUS, TO
SAY THE LEAST.

HOWEVER,
I AM NOT HERE TO
HARM YOU-- OR THEM.
I SIMPLY WISH TO SPEAK
WITH YOU, TO LEARN
FROM YOU.



I AM NO
TEACHER. I AM
A WARRIOR.

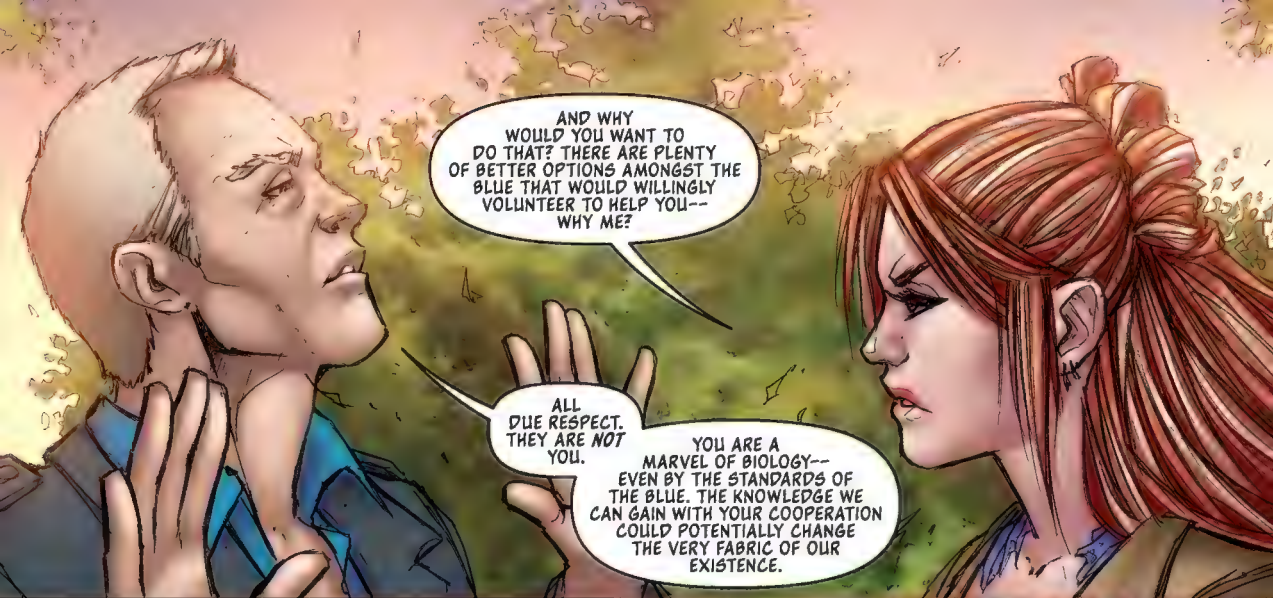
AND THAT IS
PRECISELY WHY WE NEED
YOU. WE ARE WAGING A WAR
AS WE SPEAK. A WAR ON THE MINDS
OF THE PEOPLE. THEY SEE YOU
AND THEY COWER IN FEAR. I
HOPE TO CHANGE THAT.



AND HOW
EXACTLY WOULD
THAT WORK?



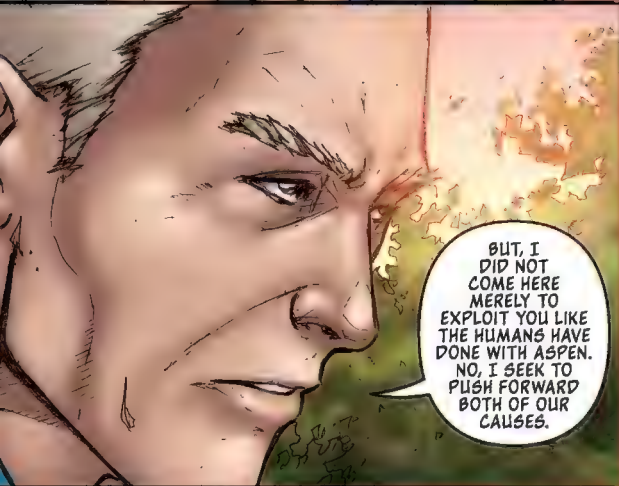
BY
STUDYING
YOU.



AND WHY
WOULD YOU WANT TO
DO THAT? THERE ARE PLENTY
OF BETTER OPTIONS AMONGST
THE BLUE THAT WOULD WILLINGLY
VOLUNTEER TO HELP YOU--
WHY ME?

ALL
DUE RESPECT,
THEY ARE *NOT*
YOU.

YOU ARE A
MARVEL OF BIOLOGY--
EVEN BY THE STANDARDS OF
THE BLUE. THE KNOWLEDGE WE
CAN GAIN WITH YOUR COOPERATION
COULD POTENTIALLY CHANGE
THE VERY FABRIC OF OUR
EXISTENCE.



BUT, I
DID NOT
COME HERE
MERELY TO
EXPLOIT YOU LIKE
THE HUMANS HAVE
DONE WITH ASPEN.
NO, I SEEK TO
PUSH FORWARD
BOTH OF OUR
CAUSES.



WHAT...
ARE YOU TALKING
ABOUT?

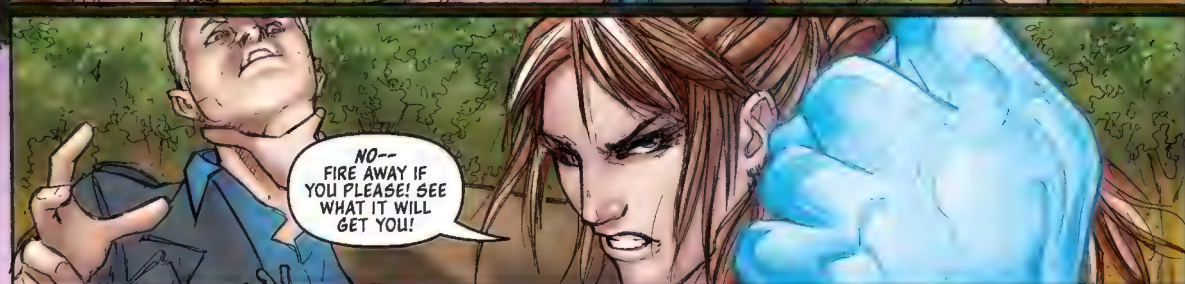
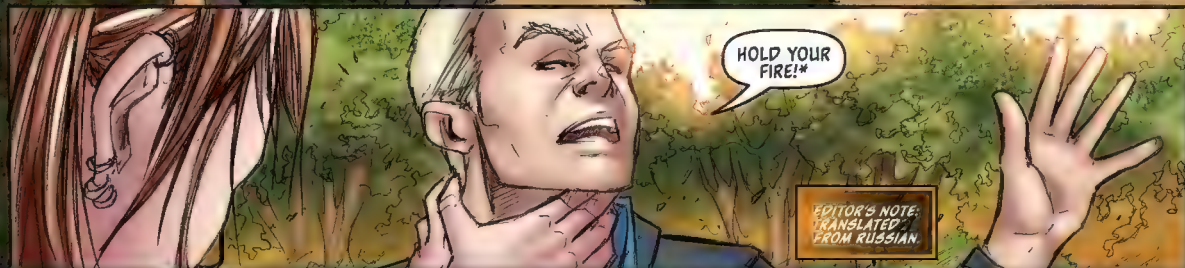
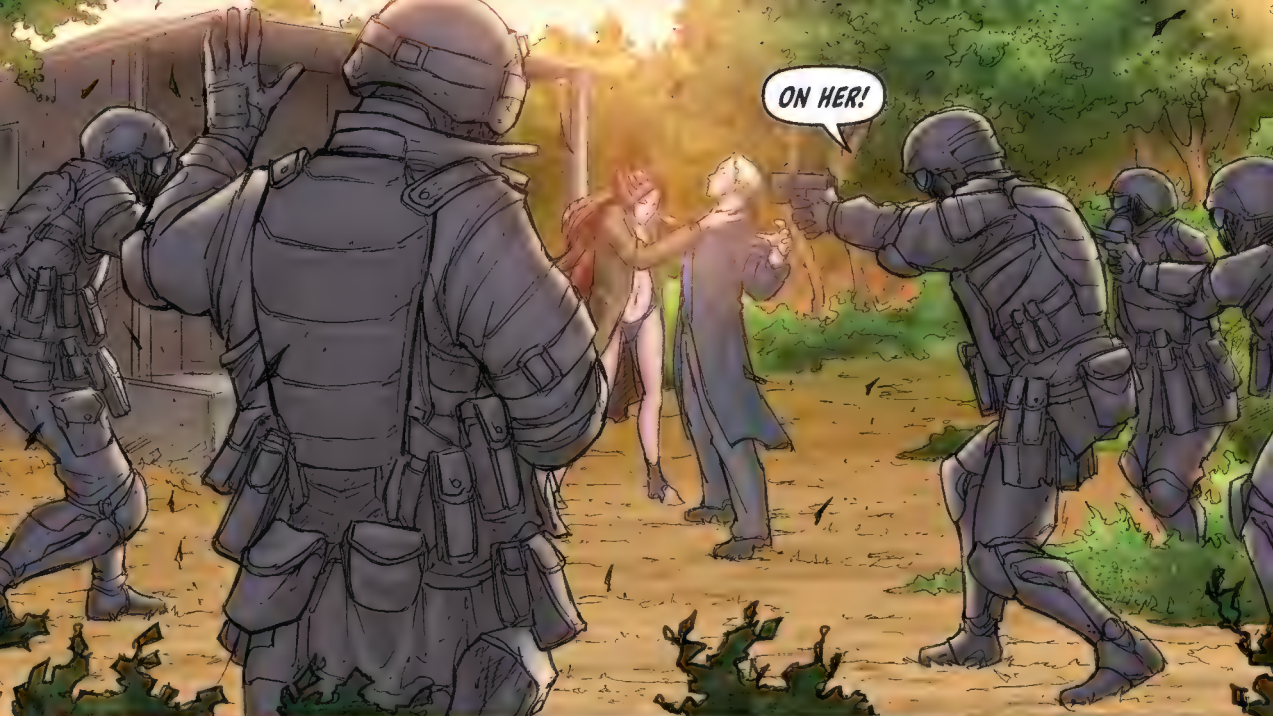


YOUR SISTER,
KIANI. THAT IS WHAT
I SPEAK OF.

AND HER
WHEREABOUTS.

-CHOKES-

WHAT
DO YOU
KNOW?!





I ONCE
THOUGHT YOU WERE
ALL THE SAME, BUT NOW
I KNOW THERE ARE GOOD
PEOPLE AMONGST YOU--
AND YOU ARE NOT
ONE OF THEM!

ANNNNN!

YOU ARE A
LIAR... AND I
HATE LIARS.

PLEASE!
IF YOU WANT
TO SEE YOUR
SISTER-- YOU
WON'T DO
THIS!

DON'T
LOOK.

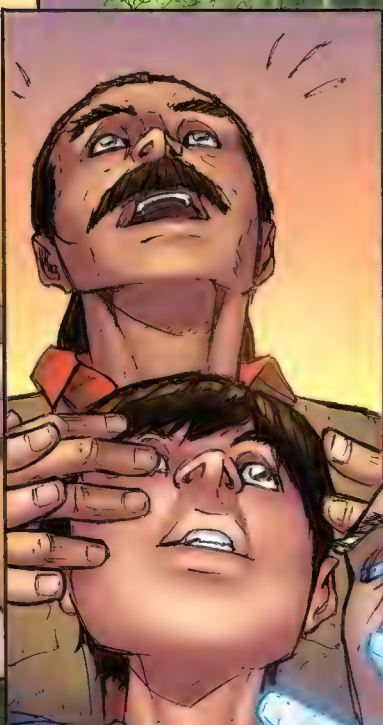


схООО



WHAT...?

I AM SORRY
I HAD TO DO
THIS, KIANI.



IT IS NOT
BECAUSE OF
WHAT YOU ARE,
BUT *WHO* YOU
ARE.



BECAUSE...
I AM ALSO ONE
OF YOU.

To Be Continued...

MICHAEL TURNER'S
**FEATHOM
KIANI**



MICHAEL TURNER'S
**7 FATHOM
KIANI**



VINCE HERNANDEZ
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GIUSEPPE CAFARO
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—Letters—

FATHOM: KIANI VOLUME THREE
= BOOK TWO OF FOUR

THE SLEEPING GIANT

KIANI DISTANCED HERSELF FROM HER PAST, AND ROSE ABOVE THE SURFACE NEAR THE TIP OF SOUTH AMERICA IN ISLA HORRUS, CHILE. ENCOUNTERING A LOCAL FISHERMAN'S FAMILY, SHE WAS WELCOMED INTO THEIR HOME WITH OPEN ARMS—A STARK CONTRAST TO EVERYTHING SHE HAS KNOWN ABOUT HUMANS UP UNTIL THIS POINT. HOWEVER, THE OTHER SIDE OF HUMANITY QUICKLY REARED ITS HEAD, AS A RUSSIAN SCIENTIST, FYODOR LUZHIN, ARRIVED TO OFFER HER AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT HER SISTER ANIKA'S CURRENT WHEREABOUTS. YET, EVEN MORE SHOCKING WAS THE DISCOVERY THAT LUZHIN NOT ONLY HAD SAID KNOWLEDGE—BUT IS A MEMBER OF THE BLUE AS WELL.



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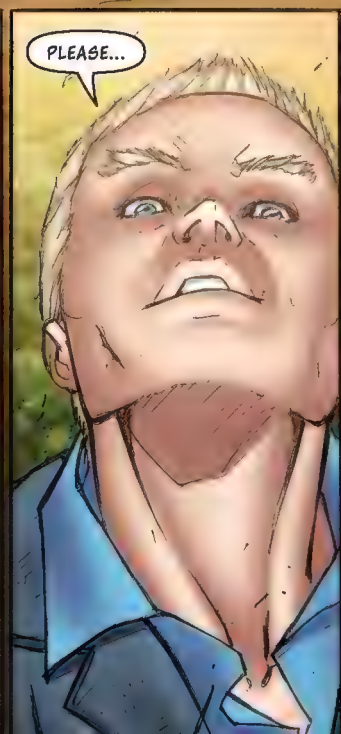
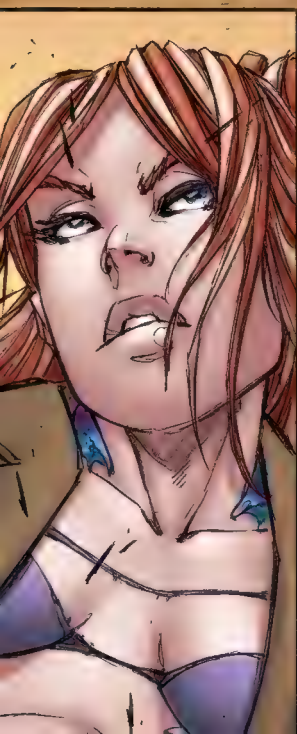
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I AM
A BLUE, JUST
LIKE YOU.
NOW, WILL
YOU LISTEN
TO ME?



PLEASE...



...I AM
NOT LOOKING
FOR A FIGHT.
WITH YOU OF
ALL PEOPLE.



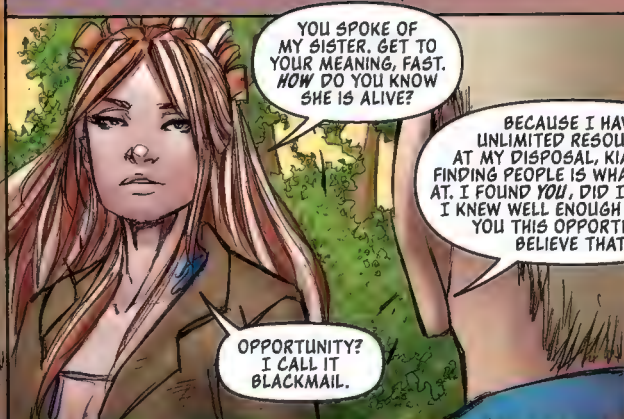
THEN, YOU MAY NOT BE A BLUE, AFTER ALL. MOST ENCOUNTERS WITH US END IN BLOODSHED.

WE ARE ALL DIFFERENT. YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT BETTER THAN MOST.

I HAVE SPENT MORE YEARS UP HERE THAN DOWN THERE, AS IT WERE. THERE IS MUCH TO BE LEARNED FROM HUMANITY-- AND THEIR ABILITY TO RECOGNIZE DEFEAT IS OFTENTIMES THEIR SAVING GRACE.

SAVING WHAT?

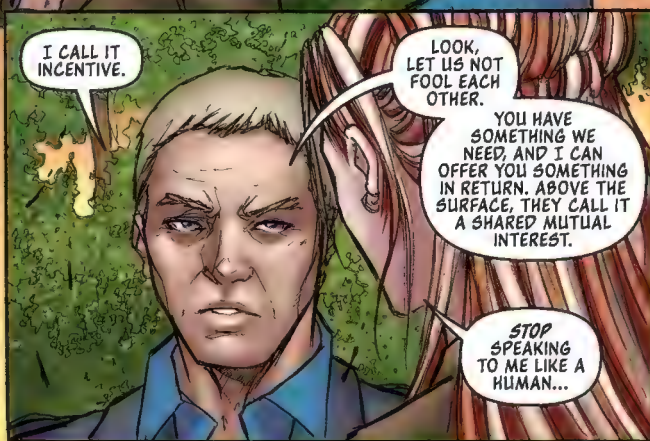
IT'S A HUMAN TERM-- IT DOES NOT MATTER.



YOU SPOKE OF MY SISTER. GET TO YOUR MEANING, FAST. HOW DO YOU KNOW SHE IS ALIVE?

OPPORTUNITY? I CALL IT BLACKMAIL.

BECAUSE I HAVE UNLIMITED RESOURCES AT MY DISPOSAL, KIANI. AND FINDING PEOPLE IS WHAT I EXCEL AT. I FOUND YOU, DID I NOT? AND I KNEW WELL ENOUGH TO OFFER YOU THIS OPPORTUNITY, BELIEVE THAT.



I CALL IT INCENTIVE.

LOOK, LET US NOT FOOL EACH OTHER.

YOU HAVE SOMETHING WE NEED, AND I CAN OFFER YOU SOMETHING IN RETURN. ABOVE THE SURFACE, THEY CALL IT A SHARED MUTUAL INTEREST.

STOP SPEAKING TO ME LIKE A HUMAN...



...OR YOU WILL SPEAK NO FURTHER.

THAT.

THAT RIGHT THERE IS WHAT I AM TALKING ABOUT. YOU ARE CAPABLE OF SUCH AMAZING FEATS. ONES THE REST OF US CAN ONLY DREAM ABOUT. I HAVE WAITED FOR THIS MOMENT MY ENTIRE LIFE...

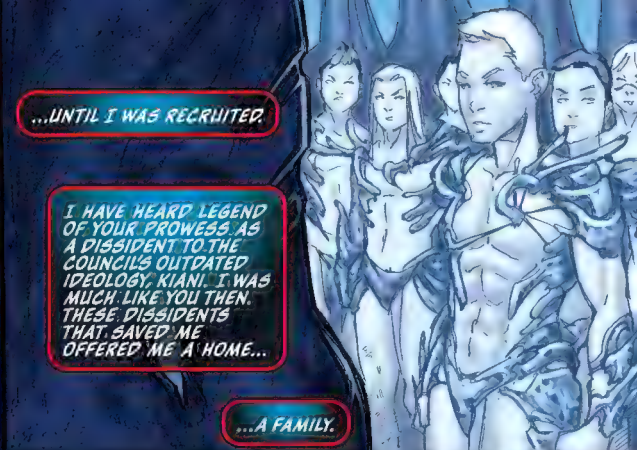


WHEN I WAS A CHILD, I LIVED IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF MURIA, THE CAPITOL CITY.

YET, I WAS BORN TO PARENTS THAT PERISHED BEFORE I WOULD LEARN TO SPEAK.

I SPENT MOST OF MY YOUTH ALONE...

...UNTIL I WAS RECRUITED.

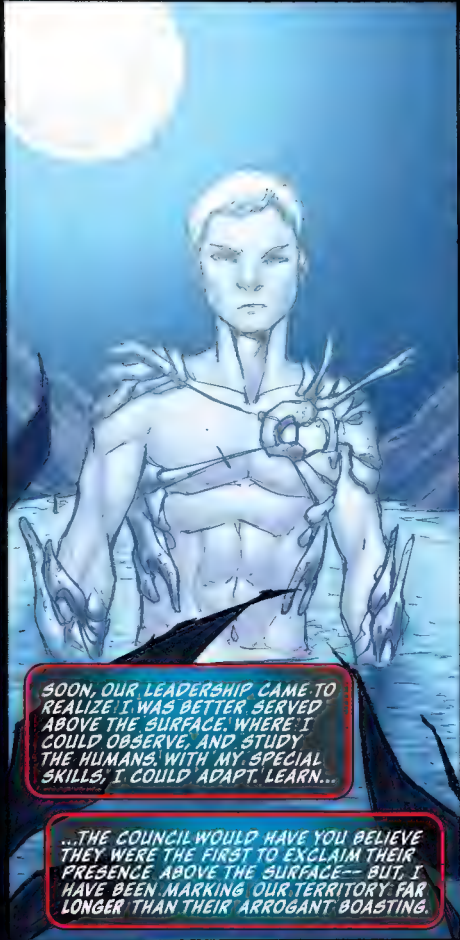


I HAVE HEARD LEGEND OF YOUR PROWESS AS A DISSIDENT TO THE COUNCIL'S OUTDATED IDEOLOGY, KIANI. I WAS MUCH LIKE YOU THEN. THESE DISSIDENTS THAT SAVED ME OFFERED ME A HOME...

...A FAMILY.



WE SOUGHT TO BRING ABOUT CHANGE. FOR ONCE, I HAD SOMETHING TO BELIEVE IN. SOMETHING TO FIGHT AGAINST. AND I WAS GOOD AT MY JOB. I KNEW HOW TO SURVIVE MUCH BETTER THAN THE COUNCIL'S YES MEN.



SOON, OUR LEADERSHIP CAME TO REALIZE I WAS BETTER SERVED ABOVE THE SURFACE, WHERE I COULD OBSERVE, AND STUDY THE HUMANS. WITH MY SPECIAL SKILLS, I COULD ADAPT. LEARN...

...THE COUNCIL WOULD HAVE YOU BELIEVE THEY WERE THE FIRST TO EXCLAIM THEIR PRESENCE ABOVE THE SURFACE-- BUT, I HAVE BEEN MARKING OUR TERRITORY FAR LONGER THAN THEIR ARROGANT BOASTING.



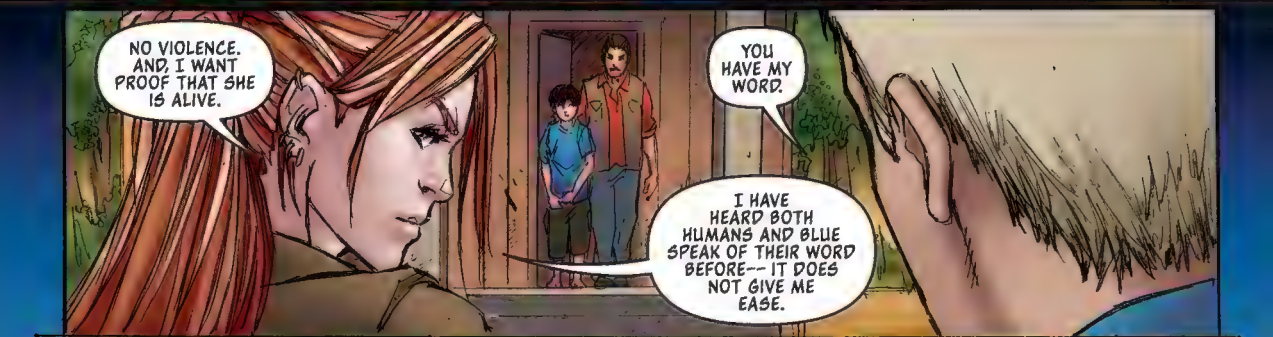
I HAVE BEEN UP HERE STRIVING TO MAKE REAL CHANGE FOR OUR PEOPLE.



PLEASE, I AM NOT ASKING YOU TO SACRIFICE ANYTHING. JUST HELP US SHOW ALL OF THEM WE CAN WORK TOGETHER IN THIS NEW WORLD, AND I WILL HELP YOU REUNITE WITH YOUR SISTER.



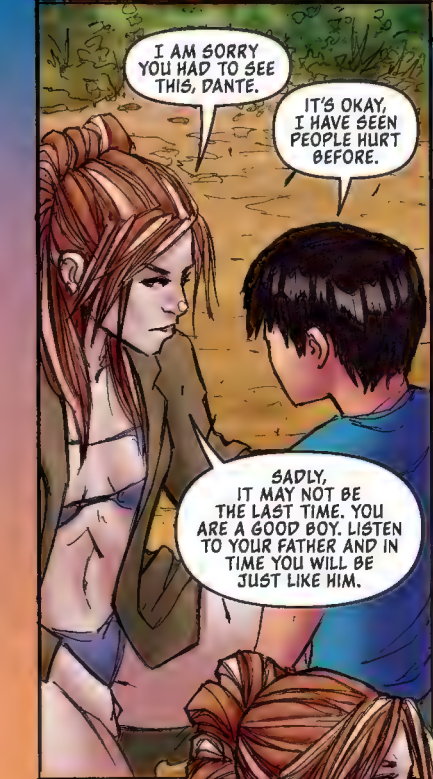
WITHOUT
ANYONE ELSE
DYING.



NO VIOLENCE.
AND, I WANT
PROOF THAT SHE
IS ALIVE.

YOU
HAVE MY
WORD.

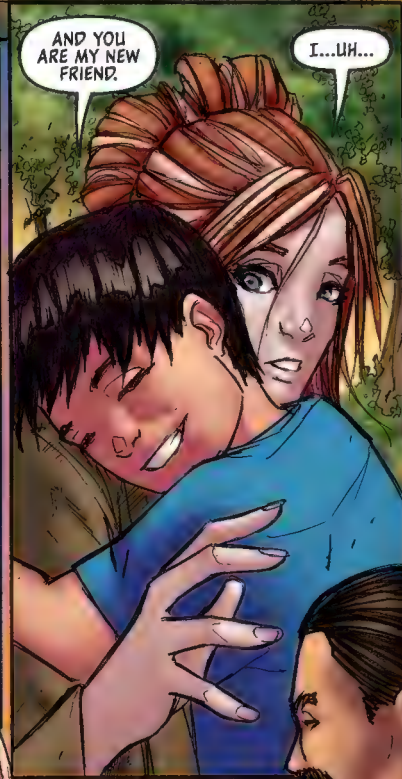
I HAVE
HEARD BOTH
HUMANS AND BLUE
SPEAK OF THEIR WORD
BEFORE-- IT DOES
NOT GIVE ME
EASE.



I AM SORRY
YOU HAD TO SEE
THIS, DANTE.

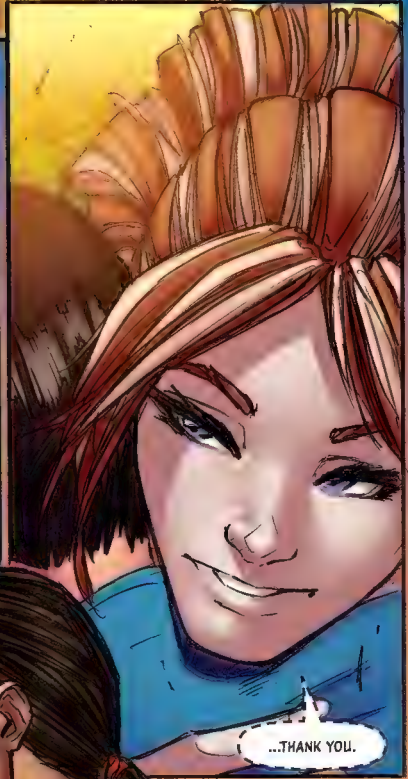
IT'S OKAY.
I HAVE SEEN
PEOPLE HURT
BEFORE.

SADLY,
IT MAY NOT BE
THE LAST TIME. YOU
ARE A GOOD BOY. LISTEN
TO YOUR FATHER AND IN
TIME YOU WILL BE
JUST LIKE HIM.

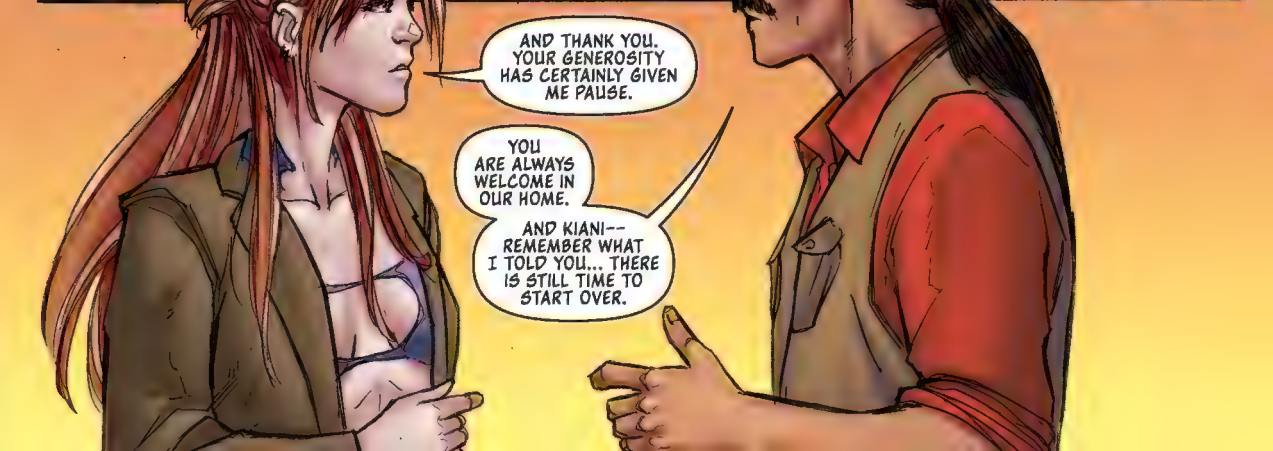


AND YOU
ARE MY NEW
FRIEND.

I...UH...



...THANK YOU.



AND THANK YOU.
YOUR GENEROSITY
HAS CERTAINLY GIVEN
ME PAUSE.

YOU
ARE ALWAYS
WELCOME IN
OUR HOME.

AND KIANI--
REMEMBER WHAT
I TOLD YOU... THERE
IS STILL TIME TO
START OVER.



I THINK YOU WILL FIND VLADIVOSTOK VERY ENJOYABLE. ITS WEATHER SYSTEM IS... HABITABLE.

AND HOW DO YOU PLAN ON GETTING US THERE?

WELL, I TOLD YOU WE COULD LEARN FROM EACH OTHER...



I AM ASSUMING YOU HAVE NEVER FLOWN BEFORE?



IT IS NOT THAT
BAD ONCE YOU
GET USED TO THE
TURBULENCE.

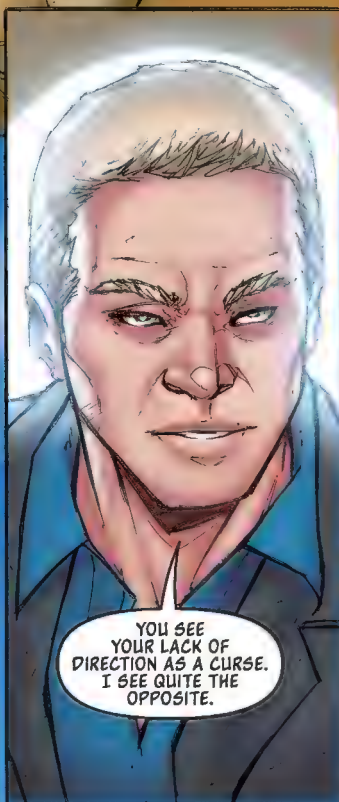
WE HAVE
NO BUSINESS IN THE
SKY. AND A BLUE MORE-SO. HOW
CAN YOU TRUST A COLLECTION OF
MACHINERY AND MOVING PARTS
BASED ON HUMAN TECHNOLOGY?
SO ARCHAIC IN ITS
NATURE.

THAT IS WHAT
MANKIND THRIVES
ON-- FAITH.

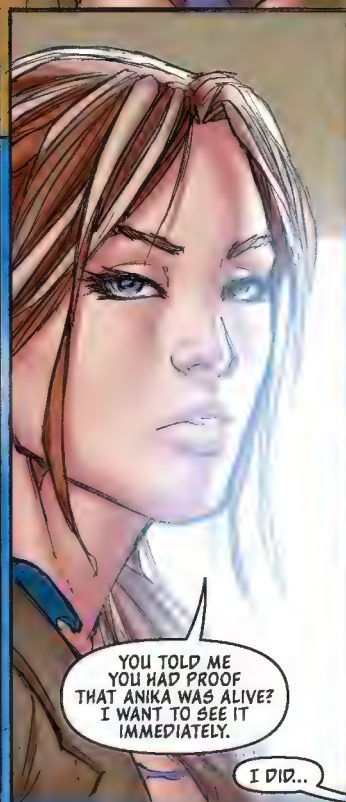


TELL ME,
WHAT FINALLY
BROUGHT YOU
UP?

I DO NOT
HAVE AN ANSWER FOR
THAT. I ONLY KNOW I HAVE HAD
ENOUGH OF LIFE DOWN THERE. OF
THE POLITICS. THE FIGHTING. THE
DEATH. AFTER ANIKA-- MY SISTER--
I DECIDED I HAD ENOUGH. I HAD
TO LEAVE. EVERYTHING I
TOUCH IS CURSED.



YOU SEE
YOUR LACK OF
DIRECTION AS A CURSE.
I SEE QUITE THE
OPPOSITE.



YOU TOLD ME
YOU HAD PROOF
THAT ANIKA WAS ALIVE?
I WANT TO SEE IT
IMMEDIATELY.

I DID...



...AND YOU
WILL.



*The next day.
The Volna.*

THE SIGHT OF IT
NEVER GETS OLD. TO
ME, AT LEAST.



IT IS
IMPRESSIVE.



THIS IS
MY TOP ASSISTANT,
NINA. WHEN WE FIRST
CAME HERE, WE WORKED
OUT OF A SINGLE
LAB.

OVER TIME,
I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO
PAINSTAKINGLY CONVINCE OUR
GOVERNMENT THAT KNOWLEDGE
TRULY IS POWER. THE VOLNA IS
A TRIBUTE TO THAT
STRUGGLE.



IT IS VERY
REMARKABLE.
TRULY.



NOW, SHOW
ME WHERE THE
REAL WORK IS
DONE.

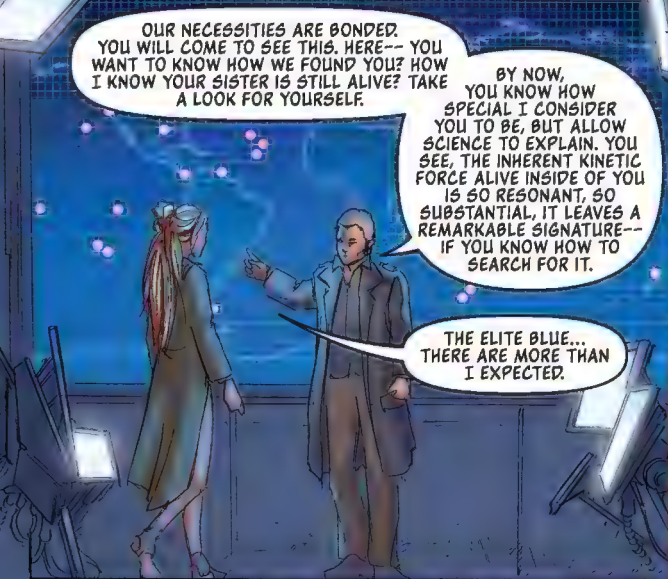


I THOUGHT
YOU WOULD
NEVER ASK.



WELCOME TO LEVEL NINE. NEEDLESS TO SAY, ONLY A SELECT FEW HAVE ACCESS TO WHAT YOU ARE SEEING-- THIS IS HOW MUCH I TRUST YOU.

OR NEED ME.



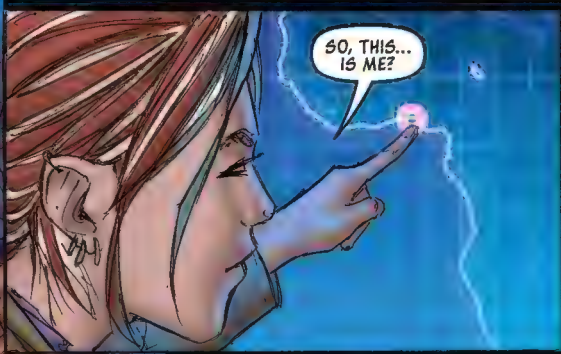
OUR NECESSITIES ARE BONDED. YOU WILL COME TO SEE THIS. HERE-- YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW WE FOUND YOU? HOW I KNOW YOUR SISTER IS STILL ALIVE? TAKE A LOOK FOR YOURSELF.

BY NOW, YOU KNOW HOW SPECIAL I CONSIDER YOU TO BE, BUT ALLOW SCIENCE TO EXPLAIN. YOU SEE, THE INHERENT KINETIC FORCE ALIVE INSIDE OF YOU IS SO RESONANT, SO SUBSTANTIAL, IT LEAVES A REMARKABLE SIGNATURE-- IF YOU KNOW HOW TO SEARCH FOR IT.

THE ELITE BLUE... THERE ARE MORE THAN I EXPECTED.



THIS AREA RIGHT HERE... THIS IS OUR LOCATION.



SO, THIS... IS ME?



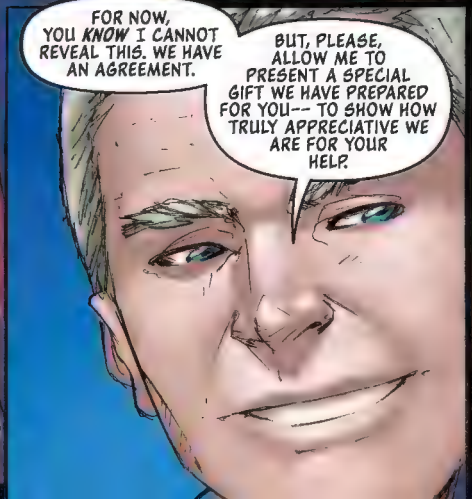
PRECISELY. DO YOU SEE THE MAKEUP OF YOUR SIGNATURE? IT IS BRILLIANT-- YET UNIQUE FROM THE OTHERS. YOU ALL SHARE A GOD-LIKE GENE CODING, BUT HOW IT APPEARS TO US CAN BE SO DISTINCT FROM EACH OTHER. IT'S AMAZING, REALLY.

HOWEVER, WE MADE AN INTERESTING DISCOVERY WITH YOUR SIGNATURE... WE FOUND AN EXACT MATCH.

ANIKA... HOW CAN YOU BE SURE IT IS HER?

THE ODDS OF TWO ELITE BLUE SHARING THE SAME GENETIC MAKEUP IS IN THE BILLIONS.

WHERE IS THE LOCATION OF THE MATCH?



FOR NOW, YOU KNOW I CANNOT REVEAL THIS. WE HAVE AN AGREEMENT.

BUT, PLEASE, ALLOW ME TO PRESENT A SPECIAL GIFT WE HAVE PREPARED FOR YOU-- TO SHOW HOW TRULY APPRECIATIVE WE ARE FOR YOUR HELP.



YOU LOOK...
BREATHTAKING.

THANK YOU,
I SUPPOSE.

I HAVE
NEVER WORN SUCH
CLOTHING BEFORE.
IT FEELS...

...DIFFERENT.

IT IS SPECIFICALLY
ENGINEERED FOR SPEED
RATHER THAN PROTECTION IN
THE WATER. I ASSUMED YOU
RELY ON THE FORMER MORE
THAN THE LATTER.

WHAT ARE
THESE? THEY LOOK MORE
COMBAT-READY.

THESE
PROTOTYPES
HAVE BEEN FIELD
TESTED NUMEROUS
TIMES, BUT THEIR
VULNERABILITIES
ARE EVIDENT.

THESE ARE
MEANT TO
FIGHT... US?

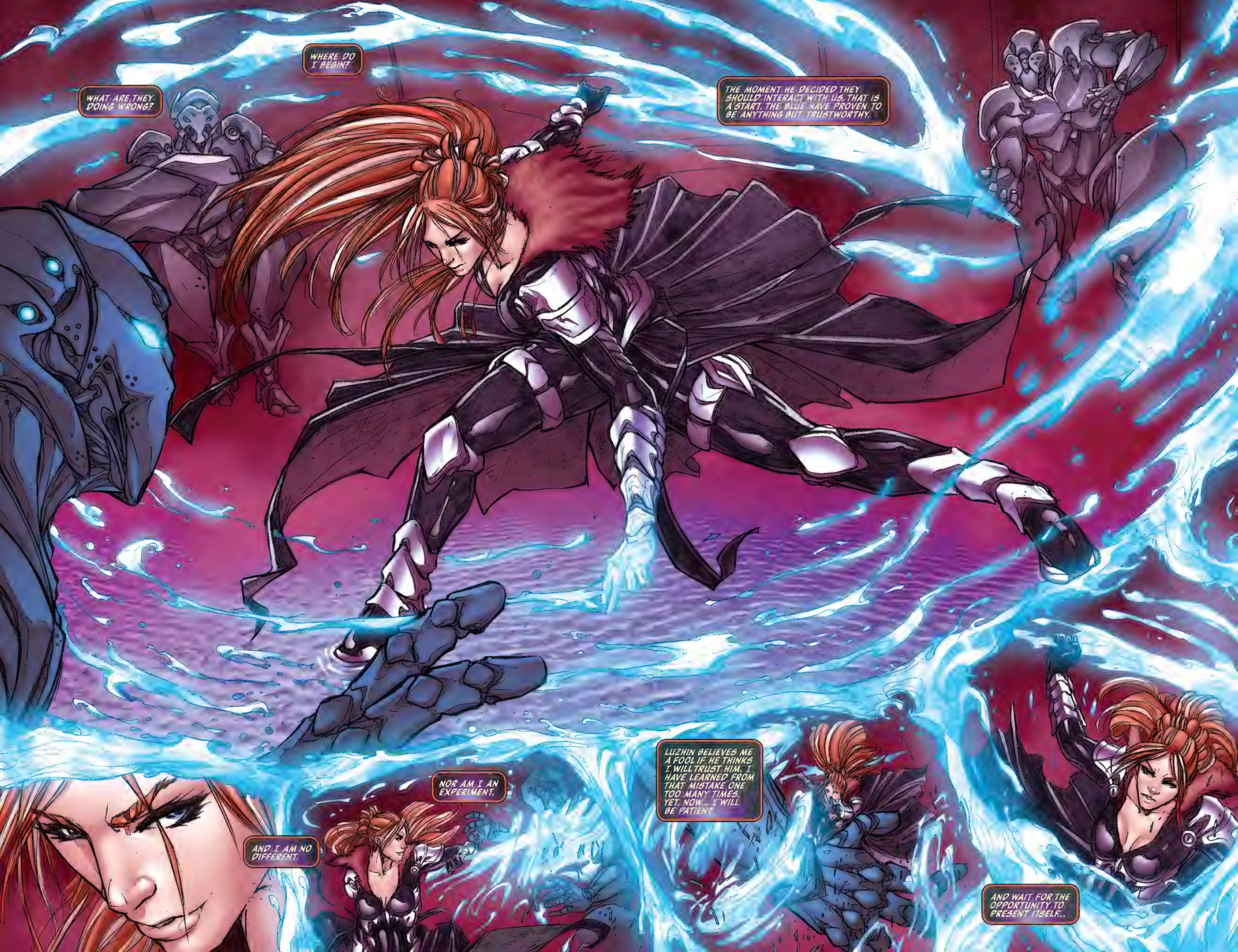
NOT FIGHT--
DEFEND.

AS I AM SURE YOU ARE AWARE,
THERE ARE SOME OF OUR KIND WHO ARE...
RATHER LESS DOCILE THAN OTHERS. THEY STRIKE
FEAR IN THE HUMANS' EYES. THIS WEAKENS OUR
PERCEPTION TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD. AND--

--AND PERCEPTION
IS EVERYTHING. I GET IT.
PROTECTION WILL EASE
THEIR MIND.

SO, WHAT AM
I ABLE TO OFFER IN
THIS SITUATION?

YOU...
YOU CAN SHOW
US WHAT WE ARE
DOING WRONG.



WHAT ARE THEY
DOING WRONG?

WHERE DO
I BEGIN?

THE MOMENT HE DECIDED THEY
SHOULD INTERACT WITH US, THAT IS
A START. THE BLUE HAVE PROVEN TO
BE ANYTHING BUT TRUSTWORTHY.

NOR AM I AN
EXPERIMENT.

AND I AM NO
DIFFERENT.

LIZHIN BELIEVES ME
A FOOL IF HE THINKS
I WILL TRUST HIM. I
HAVE LEARNED FROM
THAT MISTAKE ONE
TOO MANY TIMES.
YET, NOW... I WILL
BE PATIENT.

AND WAIT FOR THE
OPPORTUNITY TO
PRESENT ITSELF...

...AND, I
WILL PLAY
THE PART.

THESE OUTER SHELLS
WILL NOT SUSTAIN CONTINUED
DAMAGE IN A FIGHT. THEY NEED TO BE
MORE AERODYNAMIC. DO NOT FIGHT THE
CURRENT OF THE WATER WITH YOUR
DESIGN, CONFORM TO IT.

IN A WAY, I HAVE
ALWAYS BEEN A
DECEPTION.

MANY HAVE PLACED
THEIR TRUST IN ME,
TO THEIR EVENTUAL
DISMAY. HOW CAN
ONE BE RELIED UPON
WHEN THEY DO NOT
TRUST THEMSELVES?

OFTENTIMES, IT IS
ALMOST TOO EASY TO
GAIN THEIR TRUST.

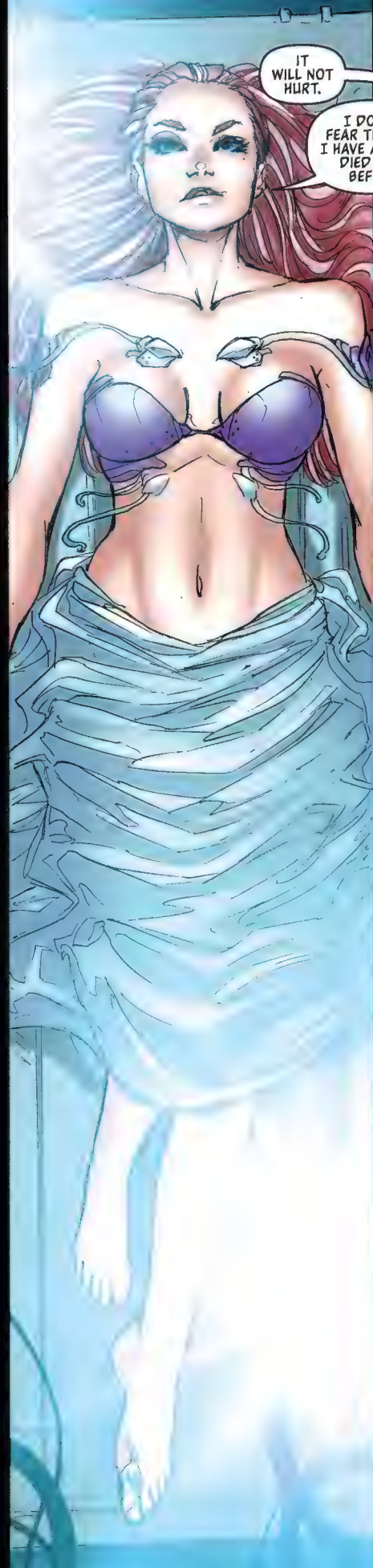
HOW THICK
IS THIS GLASS,
PILOT?

SHOULD
BE ABLE TO
WITHSTAND 7,000
PSI. ANYTHING
BUT A DIRECT
HIT.

YOUR PEOPLE--
THEY NEED TO UNDERSTAND
WHAT IT IS THEY ARE RESEARCHING.
RIGHT NOW, THEY ARE JUST GUESSING.
THEY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THEY
ARE UP AGAINST.

FOR THAT,
WE NEED TO
DIG FURTHER-- WE
NEED TO KNOW WHAT
MAKES YOU TICK...
INSIDE.

FINE.



IT
WILL NOT
HURT.

I DO NOT
FEAR THE PAIN.
I HAVE ALREADY
DIED ONCE
BEFORE.

WE DO
NOT SEEK
TO HURT YOU--
ONLY STUDY
YOU.

YOUR
COOPERATION...
IT MEANS A LOT
TO ME, KIANI.



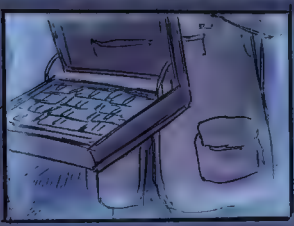
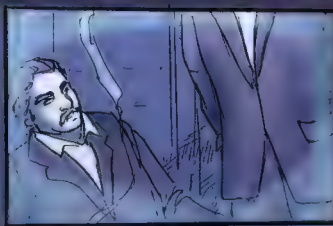
CAN I ASK YOU
SOMETHING?

WHY DO YOU
CARE IF THE HUMANS
AND THE BLUE CAN FIND
COMMON GROUND? THEY HAVE
CLEARLY ALREADY ACCEPTED
YOUR PRESENCE AMONGST
THEM.



IT IS
NOT ONLY
ABOUT ME. THESE
PEOPLE... THEY HAVE
TAKEN ME IN AS THEIR
OWN. IN MY LIFE ONLY
A SELECT FEW HAVE
AFFORDED ME SUCH
ACCEPTANCE...

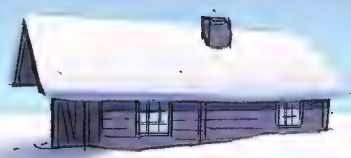




...WHEN THE SOVIET UNION COLLAPSED 30 MANY YEARS AGO, I WAS ALREADY INVESTED DEEP INTO THE CULTURE HERE.

BUT, THERE WERE MANY IN POWER WHO DID NOT SHARE MY INTEREST IN IMPROVING THE NATIONAL IDENTITY-- ONLY THEIR BOTTOM LINES.

FORTUNATELY, THEIR LOSS OF MORALITY WAS MY SALVATION. WITH OUR LEADERSHIP CRUMBLING, THE PERIOD WAS RIPE FOR GROWTH IF YOU WANTED TO MAKE YOUR MARK. YOU JUST NEEDED TO KNOW WHO TO BRIBE.



I QUICKLY LEARNED THAT EVERY MAN HAS HIS PRICE.



AND IN ORDER TO SHOW THOSE IN POWER HOW MUCH I COULD HELP--



I HAD TO SHOW THEM WHAT I COULD DO...



...WHAT I COULD OFFER... WHAT I AM.





THE VOLNA BECAME MY LIFE'S MISSION. A FACILITY THAT WOULD NOT ONLY SEEK TO UNDERSTAND THE BLUE, BUT ALSO HOW TO COLLABORATE WITH THEM. AND WHO BETTER TO LEAD SUCH AN OPERATION THAN MYSELF?

BACK THEN, WE DID NOT HIDE OUR SECRET FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD, BECAUSE NOBODY KNEW WHAT THEY WERE LOOKING FOR IN THE FIRST PLACE. OUR EXISTENCE TO HUMANS WAS MERELY MYTH AND LEGEND BACK THEN.



SO, I WAS MADE TO BELIEVE OUR PRESENCE HERE HAS ONLY CAUSED FEAR— AND DESTRUCTION. BUT YOU PROVED THIS FALSE YEARS AGO?

PRECISELY.



ONCE THE VOLNA WAS COMPLETED, WE WORKED IN SECRET FROM CHINA, JAPAN, OF COURSE THE UNITED STATES. I GAVE RUSSIA THIS KNOWLEDGE— AND TOGETHER WE ADVANCED OUR CAUSE.



IT IS MY LIFE'S ACHIEVEMENT.



YOUR PERSEVERANCE... IT IS AN ADMIRABLE QUALITY.

I APPRECIATE THAT.

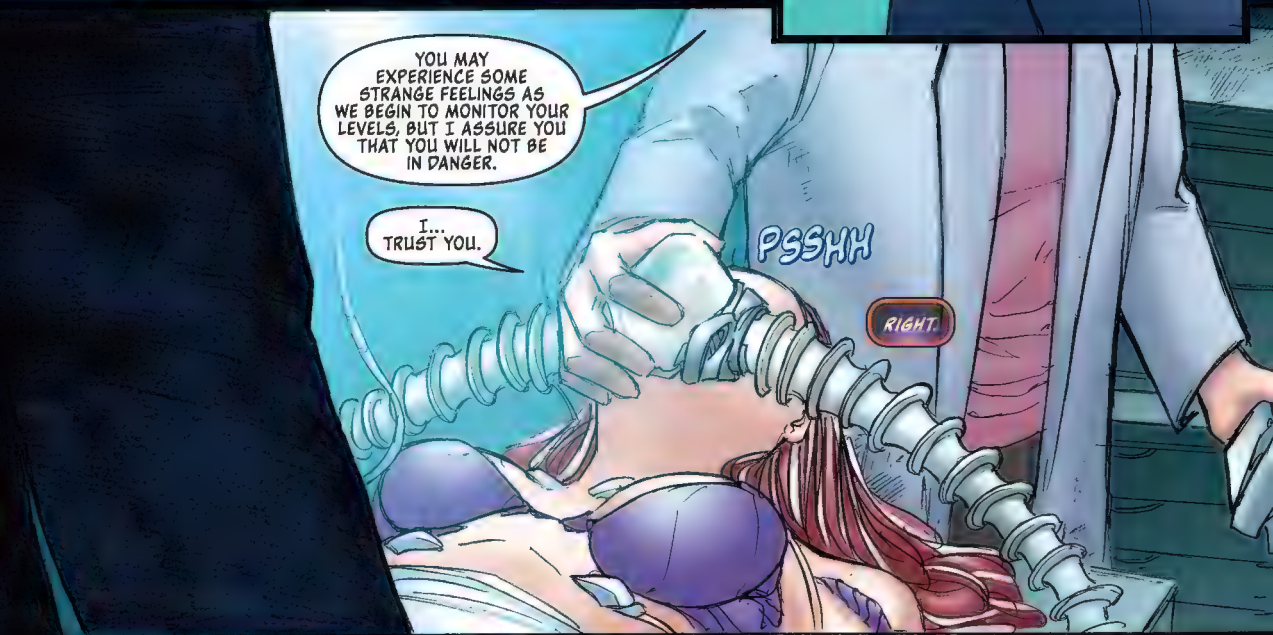


NOW, YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO FURTHER OUR GROWTH. WE CAN LEARN SO MUCH FROM YOUR PHYSIOLOGY...

...THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS.

ARE YOU READY?

AS I'LL EVER BE.



YOU MAY EXPERIENCE SOME STRANGE FEELINGS AS WE BEGIN TO MONITOR YOUR LEVELS, BUT I ASSURE YOU THAT YOU WILL NOT BE IN DANGER.

I... TRUST YOU.

PSSHH

RIGHT.



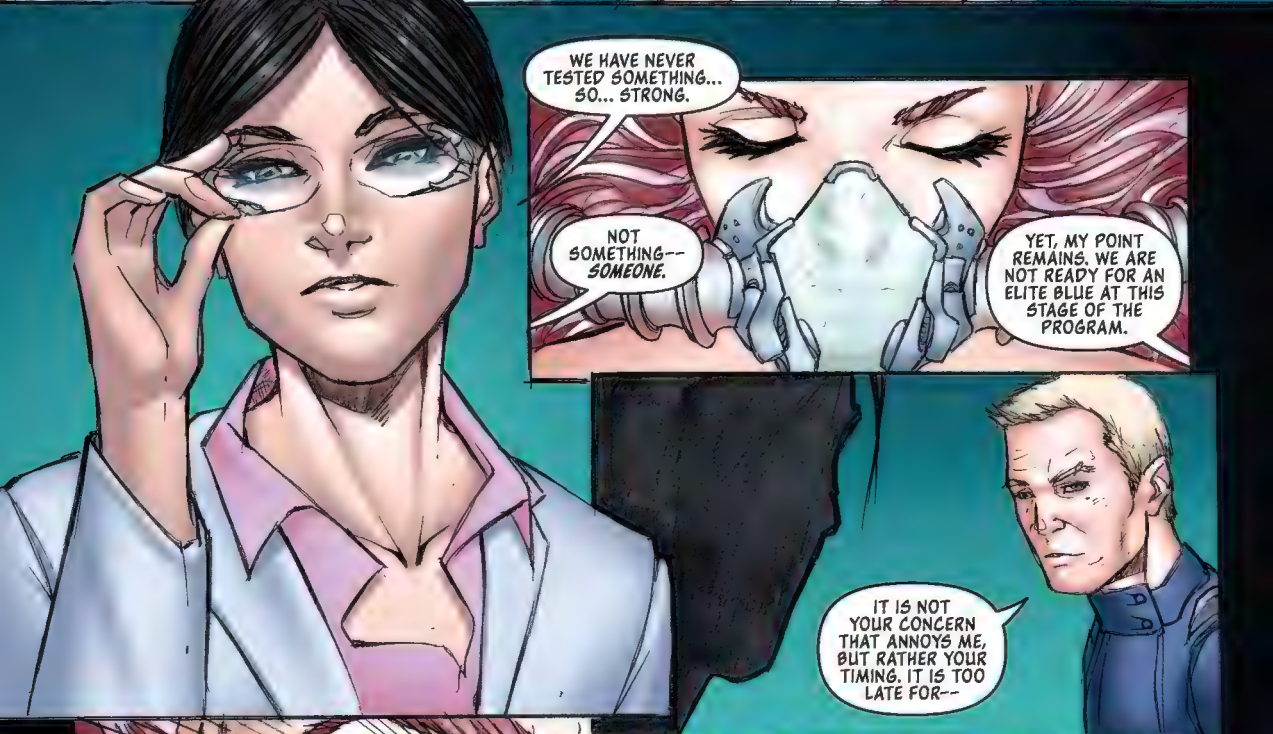
EVERYONE... IN POSITION.



LET US BEGIN.



BEGIN STAGE ONE, PEOPLE.





REEE REEE REEE REEE REEE REEE



REEE REEE REEE REEE

REEE REEE REEE REEE



REEE REEE REEE REEE





To Be
CONTINUED...

ASPEN
Vol. 3

#3
OF 4
COVER A

DEATHOM KIVAN



CAFA B 雨
in
WestFlo

ASPEN
Vol. 3

#3
OF 4
COVER B

MICHAEL TURNER'S
**10 FATHOM
KIANI**



Fawn
2014
KCH

VINCE HERNANDEZ
—Story—

GIUSEPPE CAFARO
—Pencils—

WES HARTMAN
—Colors—

JOSH REED
—Letters—

FATHOM: KIANI VOLUME THREE BOOK THREE OF FOUR

TRUE INTENTIONS

KIANI BEGAN COOPERATING WITH LUZHM'S STUDIES DEEP WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THE IMPRESSIVE VOLNA RESEARCH FACILITY. WHILE AIDING THE RUSSIANS IN THEIR UNDERSTANDING AND DEFENSE AGAINST THE BLUE, KIANI FOUND HERSELF QUESTIONING THEIR ULTIMOTE MOTIVES—ESPECIALLY THOSE OF THE PASSIONATE YET QUESTIONABLE LUZHM. AND WHEN THEY ATTEMPTED TO CONNECT TO HER IMMENSE ELITE BLUE POWERS, THEY SOON DISCOVERED NOBODY WAS SAFE FROM HER, AS THE VOLNA'S CORE OVERHEATED, CAUSING THE FACILITY TO ERUPT.



DIRECT EDITION
BY GIUSEPPE CAFARO
& WES HARTMAN



DIRECT EDITION
BY DAWN MCTEIGUE
& SABINE RICH



RETAILER INCENTIVE EDITION
BY JORDAN GUNDERSON
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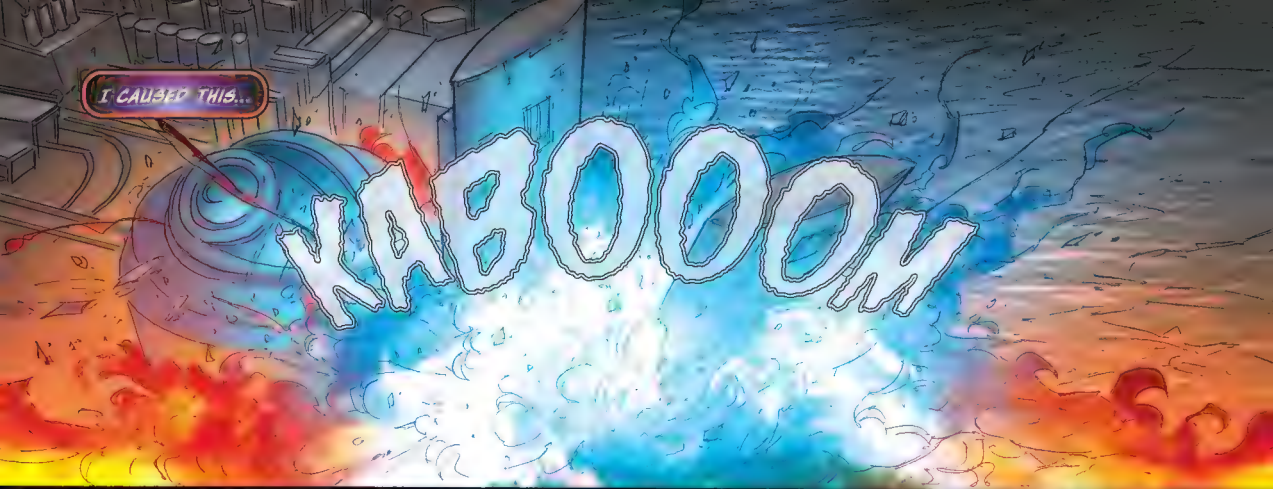
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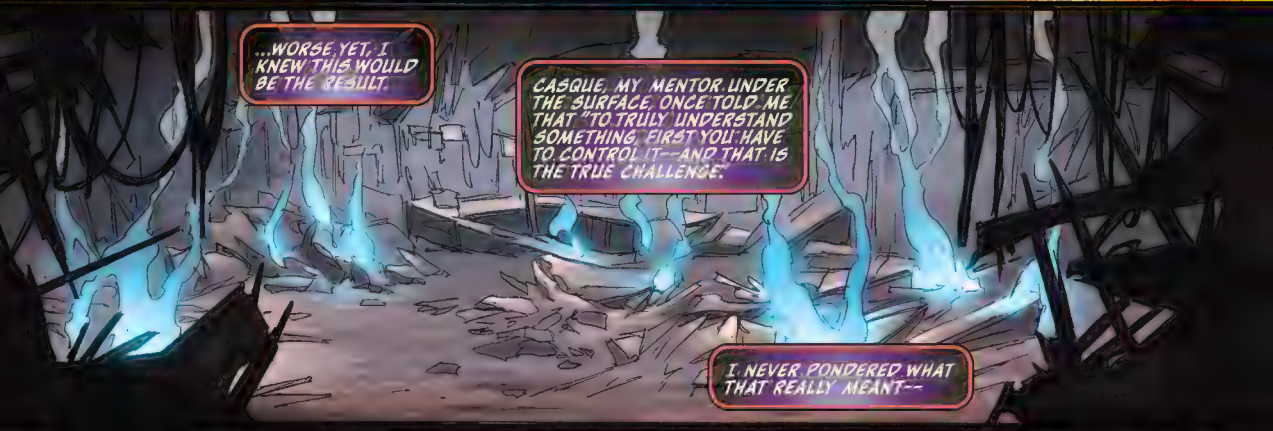
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I CAUSED THIS...

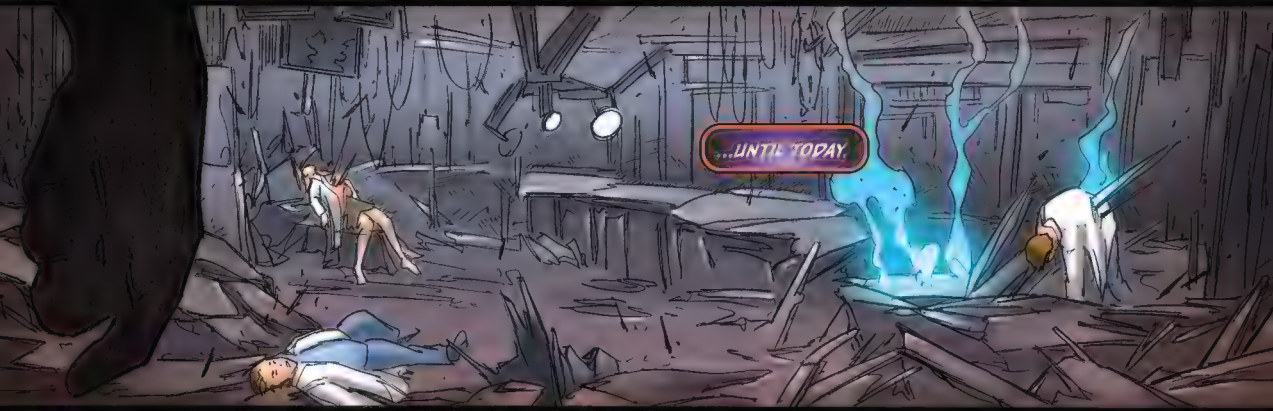
KABOOOM



...WORSE YET, I
KNEW THIS WOULD
BE THE RESULT.

CASQUE, MY MENTOR UNDER
THE SURFACE, ONCE TOLD ME
THAT "TO TRULY UNDERSTAND
SOMETHING, FIRST YOU HAVE
TO CONTROL IT--AND THAT IS
THE TRUE CHALLENGE."

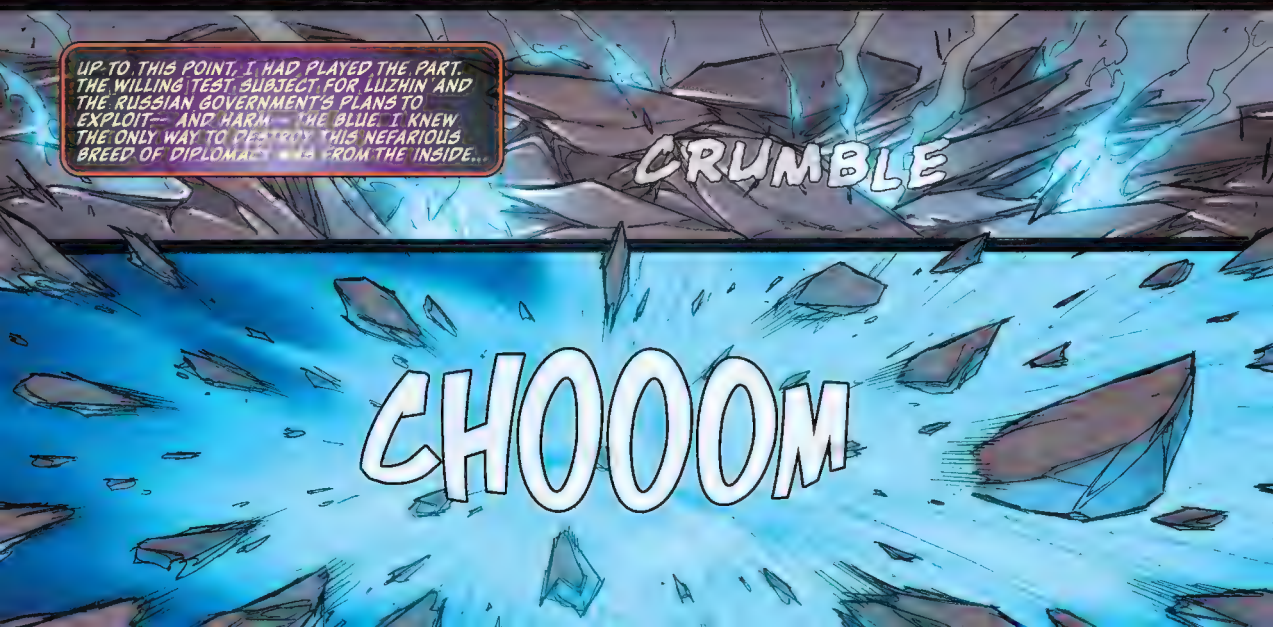
I NEVER PONDERED WHAT
THAT REALLY MEANT--



...UNTIL TODAY.

UP TO THIS POINT, I HAD PLAYED THE PART.
THE WILLING TEST SUBJECT FOR LUZHIN AND
THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT'S PLANS TO
EXPLOIT-- AND HARM -- THE BLUE. I KNEW
THE ONLY WAY TO DESTROY THIS NEFARIOUS
BREED OF DIPLOMATS WAS FROM THE INSIDE...

CRUMBLE



CHOOOM

...MISSION ACCOMPLISHED.

ANHHHHH!

PLEASE...
END IT.

THE CASUALTIES ARE GREAT, BUT I
CANNOT DWELL ON THEIR LOSSES. AS
A WARRIOR OF THE BLUE, I WAS TAUGHT
WE ARE ALL RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR
ACTIONS—EVEN IF WE CANNOT SEE
THE REPERCUSSIONS THEY CREATE.

I AM SORRY.
THIS IS LUZHIN'S DOING.
BUT, YOU SHOULD HAVE FORESEEN
THIS DAY WOULD COME. ALL OF
YOU. MAY YOUR GODS REPENT FOR
YOUR ACTIONS. MAN WAS NOT
MEANT TO CONTROL ALL LIFE
ON THIS PLANET.

HRRRGHH!

KIAN!

WE NEED
TO GET OUT
OF HERE!

I NEED
TO GET OUT
OF HERE.

...
NO, WE
CAN STILL
MAKE THIS
WORK.

DO NOT SAY WE
WHEN IT WAS YOU
THAT PLANNED TO
USE ME ALL ALONG.
DO YOU THINK OF
ME AS A FOOL?

I HAVE GIVEN
YOU EVERYTHING.

YOU HELD A PRICE
OVER MY HEAD! MY
SISTER IS NOT SOME
TOKEN TO BE USED
AS YOU SEE FIT.

SHE IS
MY BLOOD!

WHOOSH

NOTHING WILL
STOP ME FROM
FINDING HER— NOW,
TELL ME WHERE
SHE IS.

REEE REEE REEE REEE

I ANTICIPATED
THIS WOULD
NOT BE EASY.

WOOOSH

KRSH

KRSH

KRSH

WOOOSH

I KNEW A COMPROMISE WAS
NECESSARY ONCE I ALIGNED
MYSELF WITH LUZHIN. HELPING
THEM PERFECT THEIR BATTLE
HARDWARE WAS AN EXAMPLE
OF SUCH. I KNEW I WOULD
COME TO REGRET.

LEAVING WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OF ANIKA'S WHEREABOUTS IS A FAILURE. YET-- ONE I CANNOT DWELL ON NOW.



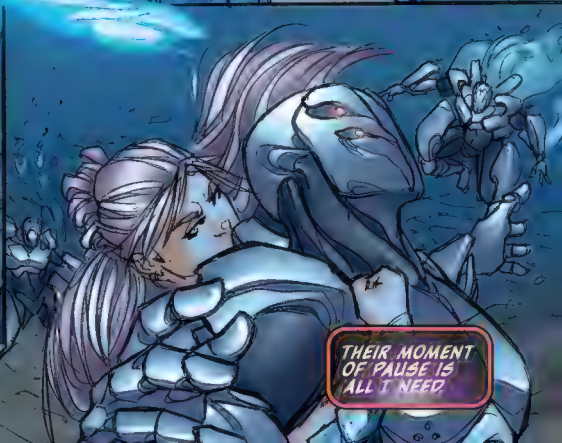
THE AMPHIBIOUS SUITS ARE BUILT TO WITHSTAND THE PRESSURE OF THE WATER'S DEPTH--



--YET, THEY ARE NOT BUILT TO DEFEND SPEED AT THE SAME TIME...



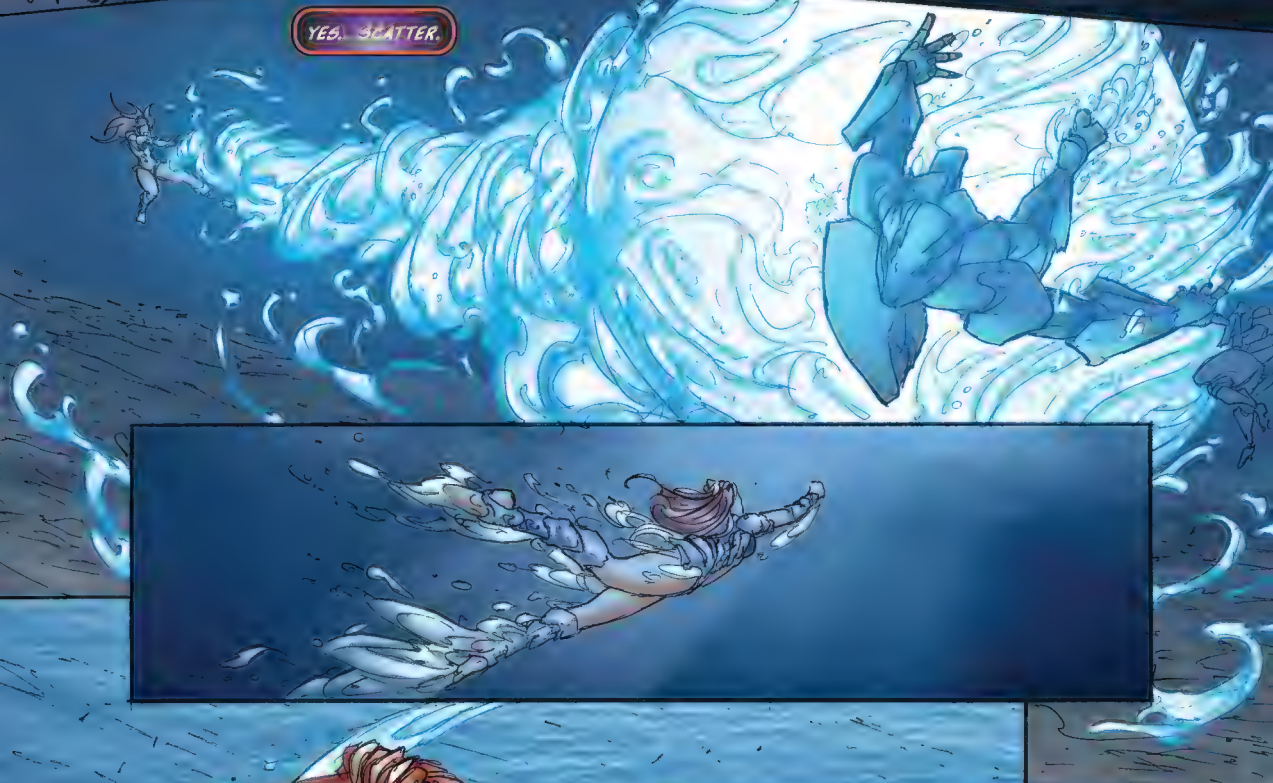
...AND, SIMILAR TO MOST HUMAN TECHNOLOGY-- THEY ARE NOT BUILT WITH THE INTENT OF SACRIFICING THEIR OWN-- IF IT COMES TO THAT.



THEIR MOMENT OF PAUSE IS ALL I NEED.



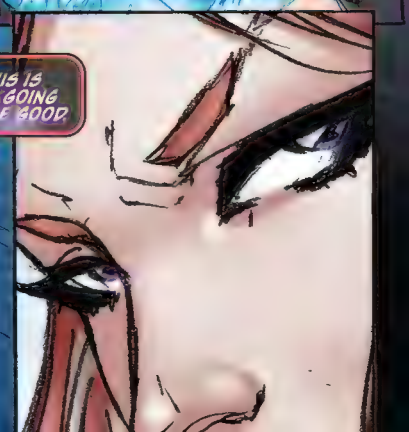
DAMN YOU, LUZHIN, FOR
MAKING THIS PERSONAL.



YES, SCATTER.



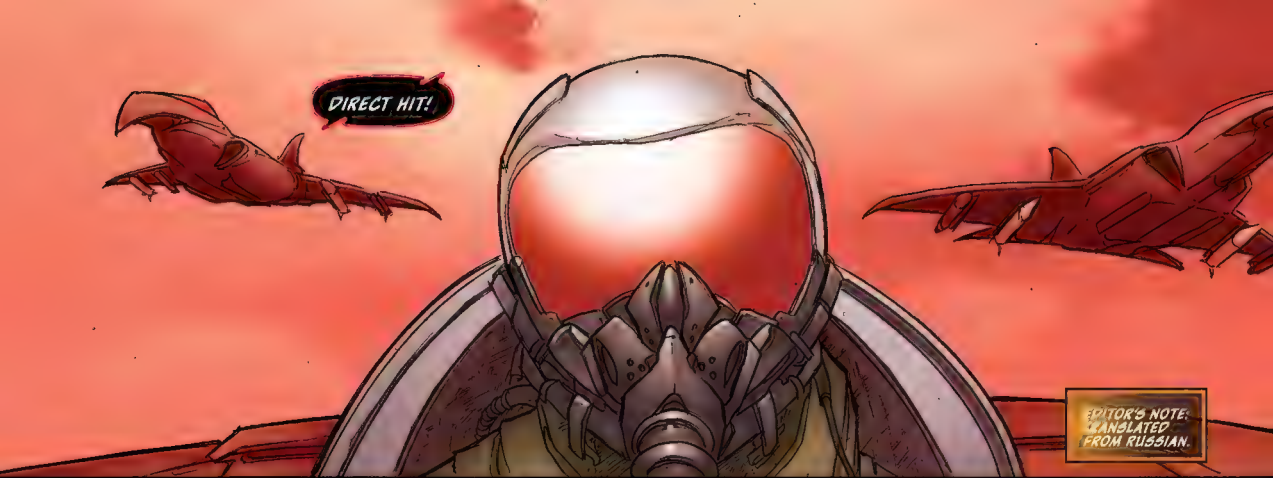
AND I WILL
PICK YOU OFF
ONE BY ONE--



--THIS IS
NOT GOING
TO BE GOOD.



I TAKE BACK WHAT I
SAID ABOUT THEIR
UNWILLINGNESS TO
SACRIFICE THEIR OWN.





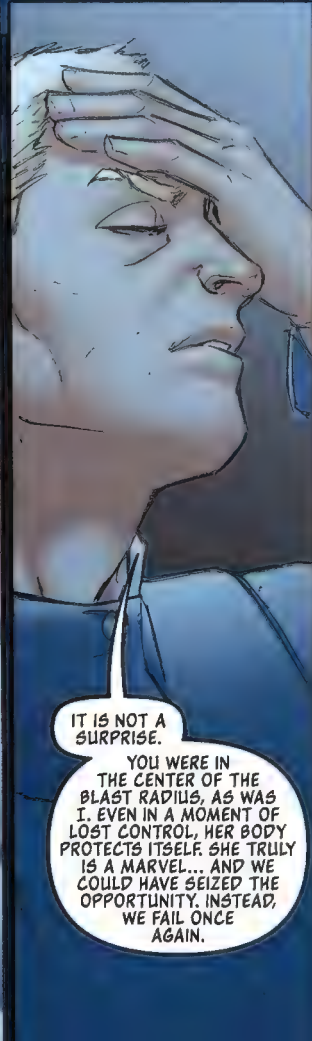


I THOUGHT
WE HAD HER.

WE DID--
AND THEN WE
LOST HER.

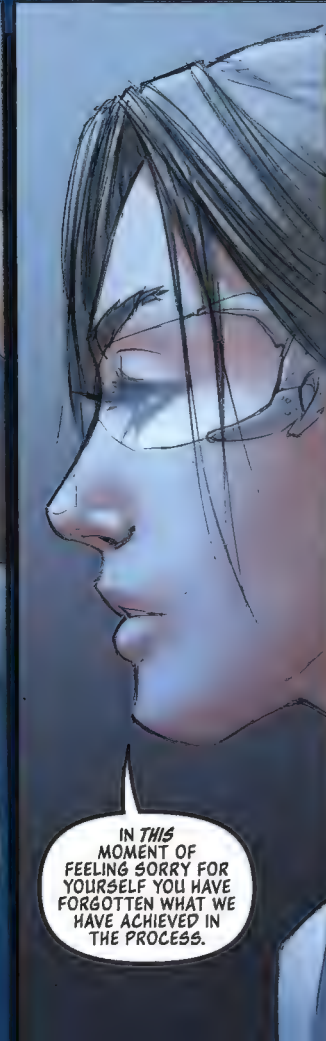


I'M FINE,
BY THE WAY. IN
CASE YOU WERE
WONDERING HOW
I SURVIVED.

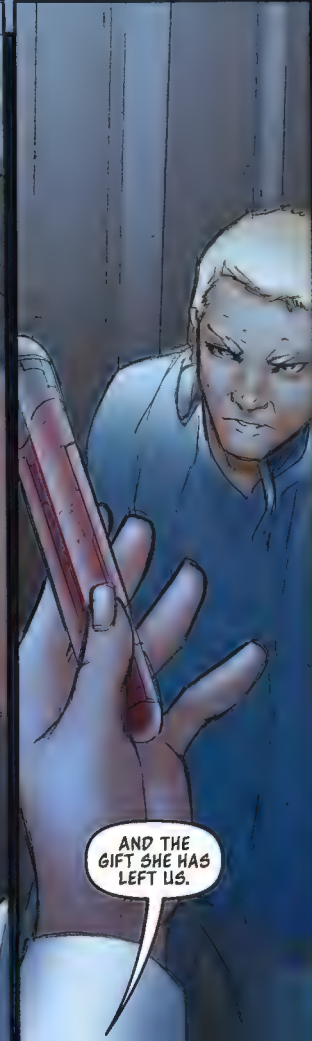


IT IS NOT A
SURPRISE.

YOU WERE IN
THE CENTER OF THE
BLAST RADIUS, AS WAS
I. EVEN IN A MOMENT OF
LOST CONTROL, HER BODY
PROTECTS ITSELF. SHE TRULY
IS A MARVEL... AND WE
COULD HAVE SEIZED THE
OPPORTUNITY. INSTEAD,
WE FAIL ONCE
AGAIN.



IN *THIS*
MOMENT OF
FEELING SORRY FOR
YOURSELF YOU HAVE
FORGOTTEN WHAT WE
HAVE ACHIEVED IN
THE PROCESS.



AND THE
GIFT SHE HAS
LEFT US.

I ONCE TOLD LUZHIN
THAT MANKIND DID NOT
BELONG IN THE SKY—
BUT HE DID NOT LISTEN.

NOW, TO PROVE
MY POINT.

MY GOD.

FIRE AT
WILL!

THEY ARE GETTING CLOSER.

SPLASH

SPLASH

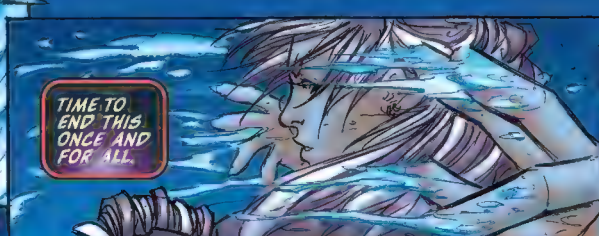
SPLASH



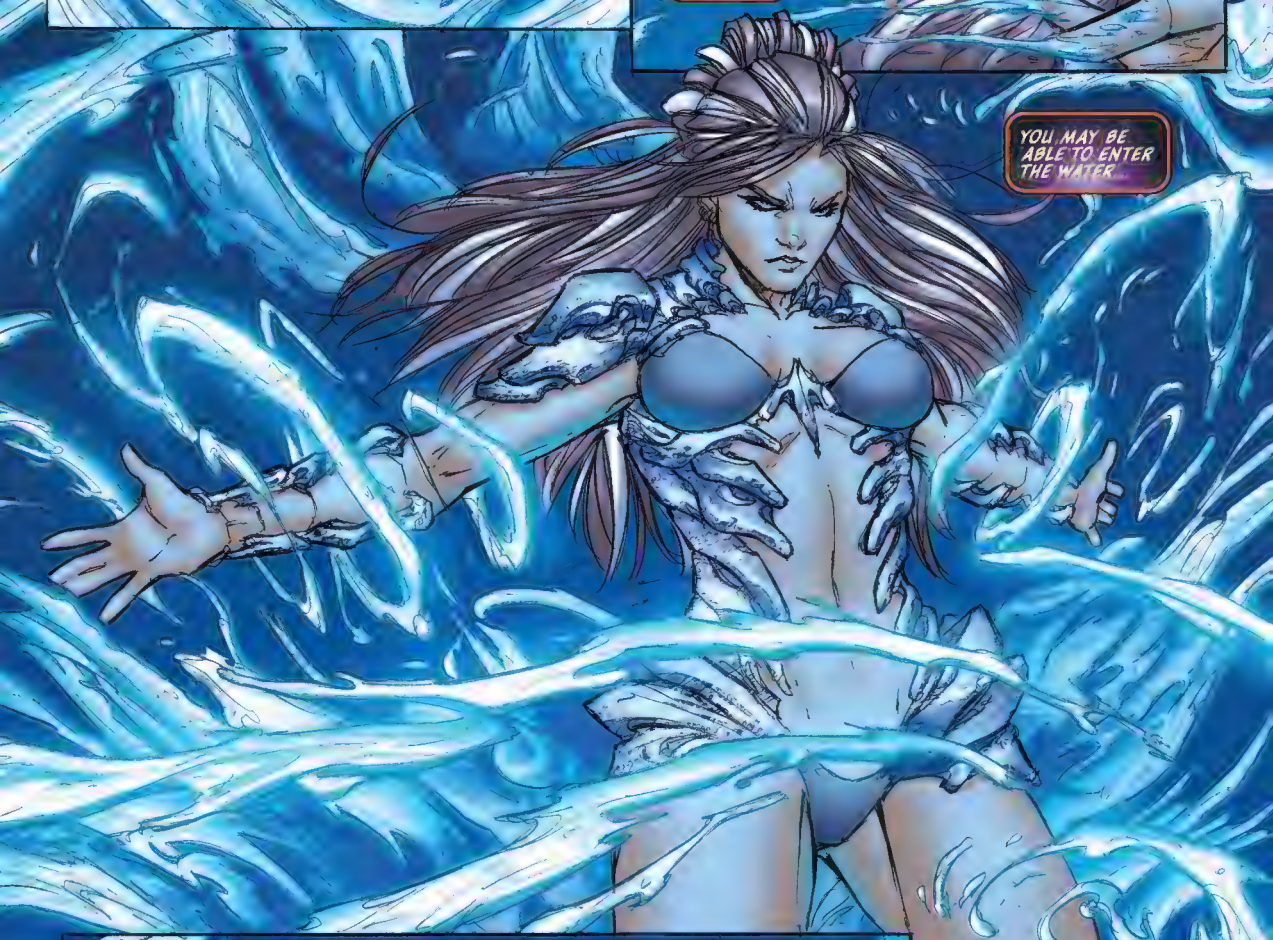
DAMMIT.



THEY ARE
WELL TRAINED
WARRIORS.



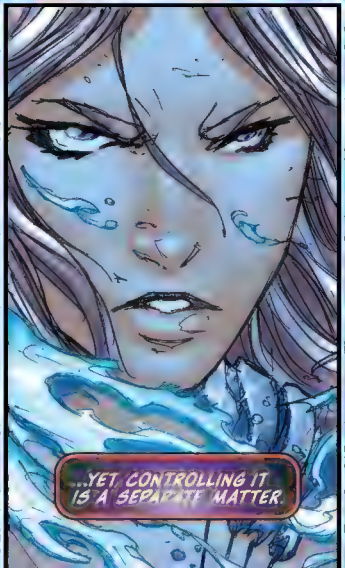
TIME TO
END THIS
ONCE AND
FOR ALL.



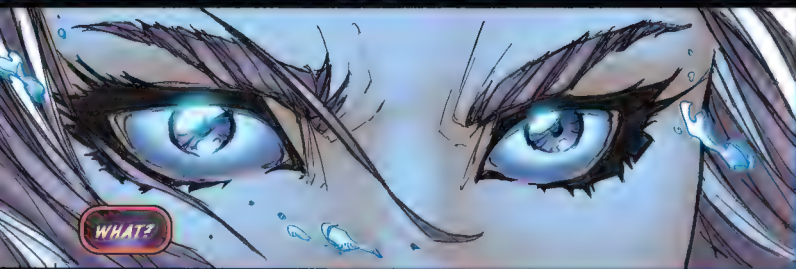
YOU MAY BE
ABLE TO ENTER
THE WATER.



MAYDAY,
MAYDAY!



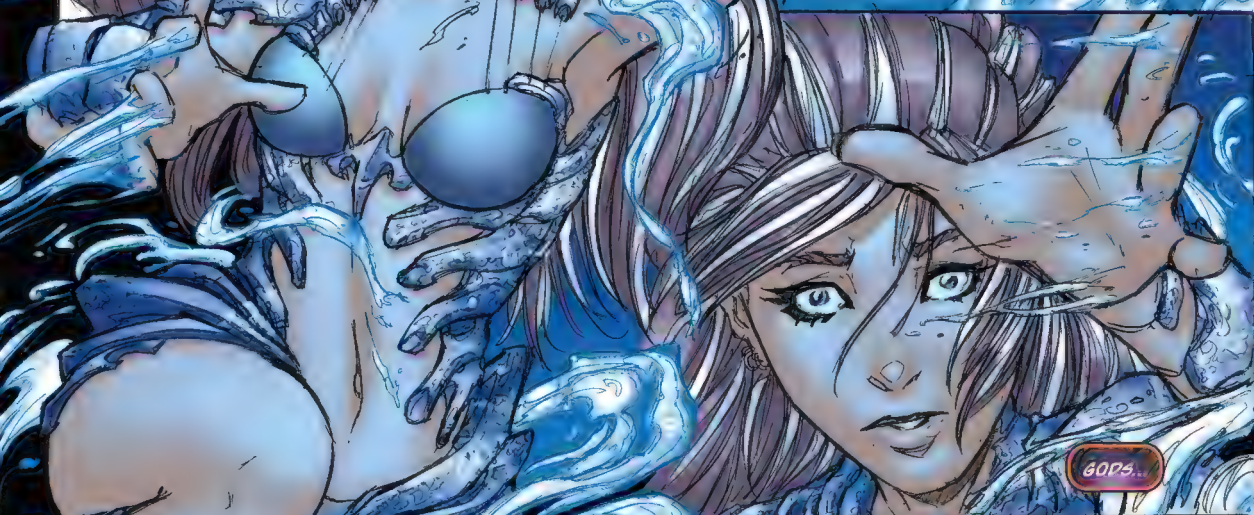
...YET, CONTROLLING IT
IS A SEPARATE MATTER.



WHAT?



SOMETHING...
BLOCKING?



GODS...



...CASQUEZ!



CASQUE IS THE LAST PERSON I EXPECTED TO ENCOUNTER, CONSIDERING HIS TIES TO BOTH BLUE AND BLACK ARE QUESTIONABLE AT THIS POINT.

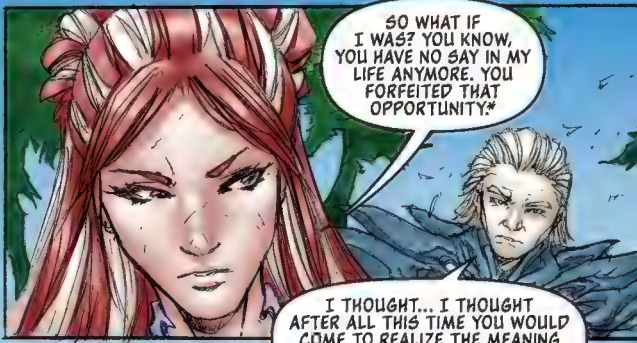


IT HAS BEEN A LONG TIME, KIANI.

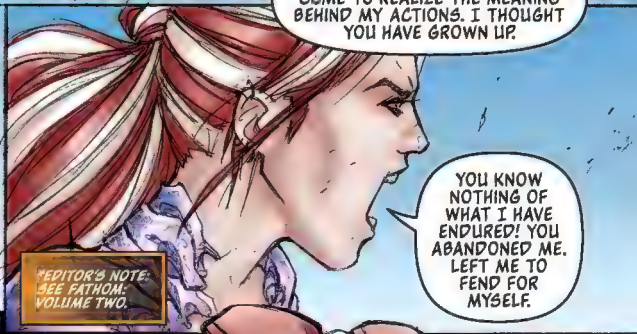
THAT'S IT? YOU GIVE ME A CLICHÉD PLATITUDE?!

WHY DID YOU SAVE THOSE HUMANS BACK THERE? THEY WERE TRYING TO KILL ME.

THEY COULDN'T HAVE HURT YOU NO MATTER HOW MANY PLANES THEY SENT. YOU AND I BOTH KNOW THIS. YOU WERE TOYING WITH THEM.



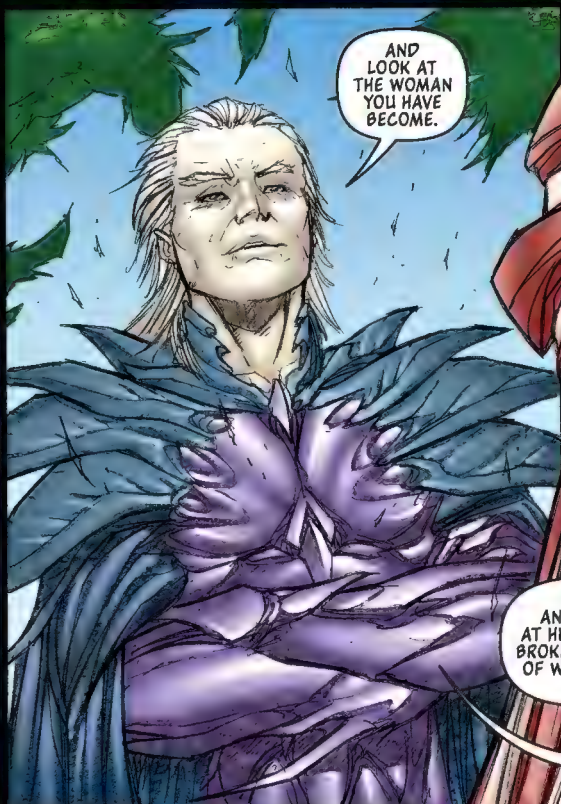
SO WHAT IF I WAS? YOU KNOW, YOU HAVE NO SAY IN MY LIFE ANYMORE. YOU FORFEITED THAT OPPORTUNITY?!



I THOUGHT... I THOUGHT AFTER ALL THIS TIME YOU WOULD COME TO REALIZE THE MEANING BEHIND MY ACTIONS. I THOUGHT YOU HAD GROWN UP.

YOU KNOW NOTHING OF WHAT I HAVE ENDURED! YOU ABANDONED ME. LEFT ME TO FEND FOR MYSELF.

EDITOR'S NOTE:
SEE FATHOM:
VOLUME TWO.



AND LOOK AT THE WOMAN YOU HAVE BECOME.



IS THAT AN ATTEMPT AT HUMOR? I AM BROKEN... A SHELL OF WHAT I USED TO BE.

YOU MAY THINK THAT...



YET,
I DO NOT
AGREE.

WHY DID
YOU LEAVE ME?
AND WHY HAVE
YOU RETURNED
NOW-- OF ALL
TIMES?



THE
TRUTH?

THE TRUTH
IS I WAS NOT
SEARCHING
FOR YOU.

THE DAY YOU RESCUED ME FROM
MARQUESSES AND HIS DISSIDENTS, THERE
WERE OTHER SECRETS HE KEPT FROM
YOU. ONES I THOUGHT WOULD NEVER
AFFECT YOU UNTIL THIS MOMENT.

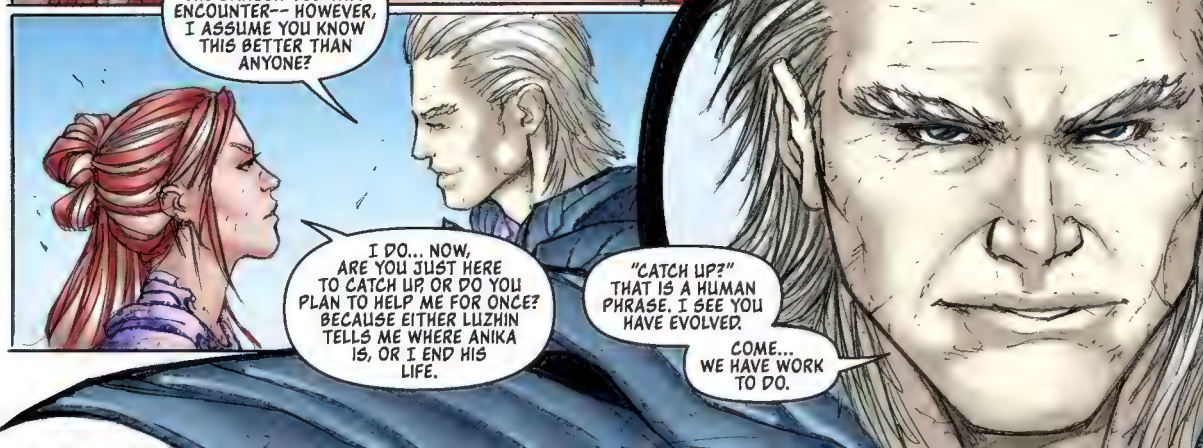
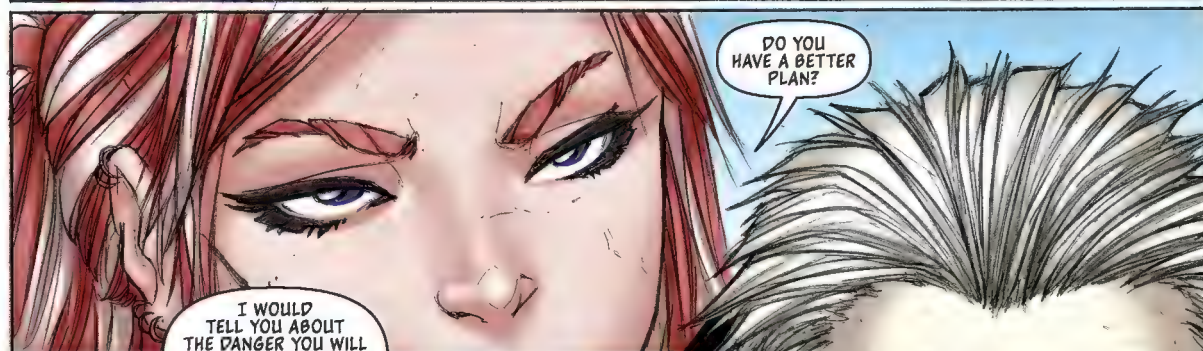
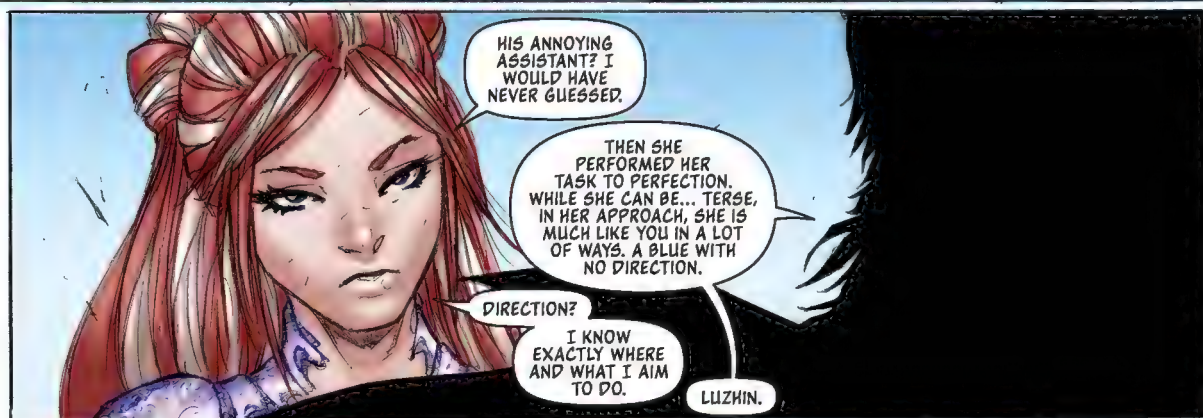


ALLIANCE WAS
ON THE
EDGE

HE SERVED AS
MARQUESSES
TOP SOLDIER--
AND ONE I HAVE
SOUGHT TO FIND
AND ELIMINATE
SINCE I KILLED
HIS MASTER.

WHEN I DISCOVERED HE HAD
SURFACED IN RUSSIA, I
THOUGHT ALL WAS LOST AND
HE WAS OUT OF MY REACH.

RECENT EVENTS ABOVE THE
SURFACE HAVE ALTERED THAT
PERCEPTION. I KNEW I
COULD FINALLY FINISH WHAT
I HAD STARTED.





I'VE SERVED LUZHIN
FOR YEARS. I KNEW
THIS DAY WOULD
EVENTUALLY COME...

...A PERSON SUCH AS
LUZHIN IS NEVER FULLY
SATISFIED. KNOWLEDGE
IS POWER, BUT IN THE
WRONG HANDS IT CAN
ALSO BE FATAL...

...THIS IS WHAT
I HOPED FOR.

I AM NO MURDERER, BUT IF HE
IS WILLING TO SACRIFICE HIS LIFE
FOR A CHANCE AT SOMETHING
GREATER... I AM ALL TOO
WILLING TO ACCOMMODATE HIM.

HNNNG!

HE WILL NOT
SURVIVE THIS.

LUZHIN...?

IT IS OKAY...
HER BLOOD IS IN
YOU. IT *SHOULD*
FEEL PAINFUL.

SOON, YOU WILL
BE DEAD. IN FACT.

HNNNGH...
NINA...

MY GODS... YOU SHOULD
BE DEAD BY NOW.



WHAT HAVE
I DONE?

...I HAVE
NEVER FELT
BETTER.

To BE
CONTINUED...

MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
KIANII



MICHAEL TURNER'S
FATHOM
KIANI





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GIUSEPPE CAFARO
—Pencils—

WES HARTMAN
—Colors—

JOSH REED
—Letters—

FATHOM: KIANI VOLUME THREE
— BOOK FOUR OF FOUR —

BLADES OF TERROR

KIANI DIRECTED HER ELITE BLUE POWERS INTO THE CORE OF THE VOLNA, CAUSING THE STRUCTURE TO EXPLODE FROM WITHIN IN DEVASTATING FASHION. YET, IN HER PLAN TO DESTROY THEIR FACILITIES, SHE FAILED TO REALIZE LUZHIN AND HIS TEAM OF SCIENTISTS HAD MANAGED TO EXTRACT HER BLOOD, ALLOWING HIM TO FEED OFF HER POWERFUL CAPABILITIES, AND CREATING A MONSTER IN THE PROCESS.



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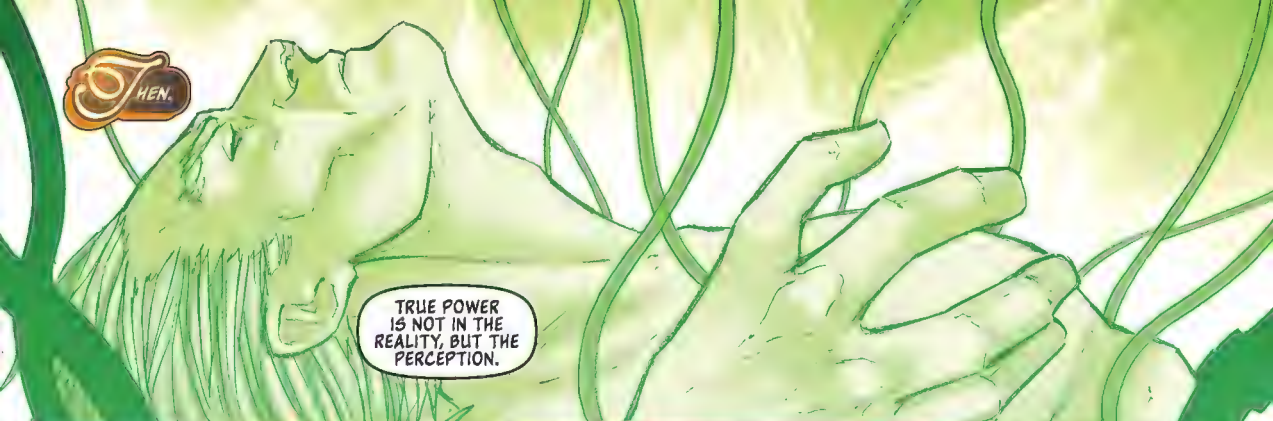
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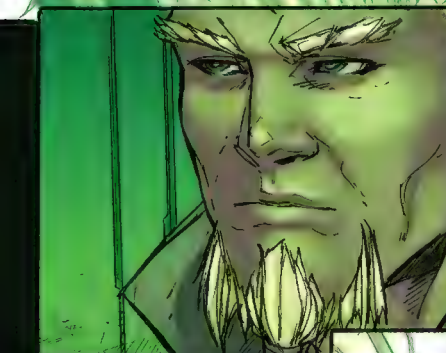
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TRUE POWER
IS NOT IN THE
REALITY, BUT THE
PERCEPTION.



ON THE SURFACE,
THEY WILL SEE YOUR
CAUSE AS JUST-- AND
THAT MASK WILL ALLOW
US TO TRULY AFFECT
CHANGE.



I AM
READY,
MARQUES.



NO, YOU ARE
NOT. YET, OUR TIME
SLIPS AWAY. WE HAVE
NO CHOICE BUT TO
SEE THIS THROUGH
TO THE END.



I WILL
NOT FAIL
YOU.



YOU KNOW
WHAT MUST
BE DONE.

Now

YOU KNOW
HE WILL NOT GIVE
IN WILLINGLY.

NEITHER
WILL I.

IS THE KNOWLEDGE OF
YOUR SISTER'S WHEREABOUTS
WORTH YOUR OWN LIFE?

BECAUSE,
I HIGHLY DOUBT
THE HUMANS WILL
OFFER TERMS OF
SURRENDER.

YOU ARE
FORGETTING
ABOUT WHAT I HAVE
BEEN THROUGH,
CASQUE...

...AND THAT I
HAVE ALREADY DIED
ONCE BEFORE.



A UNIQUE
PERSPECTIVE,
INDEED.
FIND HIM.
I WILL HANDLE
HIS ARMY.



YOU LOOK SURPRISED, NINA.

YOU LOOKED DEAD.



I HAVE DIED. MY LIFE'S WORK... GONE. ALL BECAUSE OF HER.



WE PRESSED HER TOO FAR.

THERE IS NO LIMIT FOR HER!



BUT, THERE IS FOR YOU. YOU CANNOT CONTROL SUCH POWER.

NONE OF US ARE IN CONTROL...

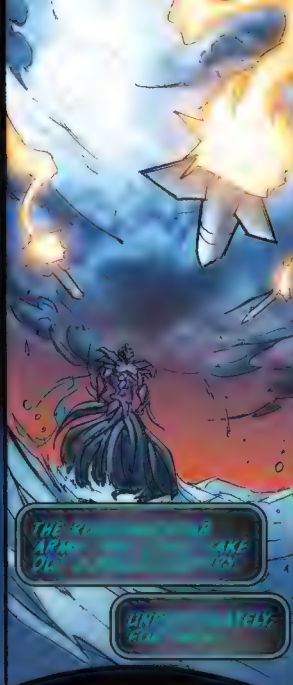


...I KNOW THIS, NOW.

LEVEL 18. ACCESS GRANTED.



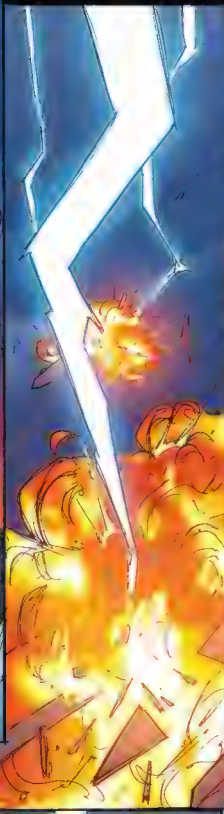
NO.



THE K...
ARM...
OK...
UN...
ELY...



...THEY DO NOT
STAY RECENT
HIS...
THE...



INITIATE
DEHYDRATE
SEQUENCING.

BREEP BREEP

CONFIRMED.



OK...
WA...

BREEEEEEEP BREEEP BREEEEEEEP





PLEASE, LUZHIN. GET CONTROL OF YOURSELF! YOU CANNOT HANDLE WHAT IS INSIDE YOU!

THERE IS NOTHING LEFT TO TAKE FROM ME! I FEEL NO PAIN.

YOU CANNOT DO THIS!

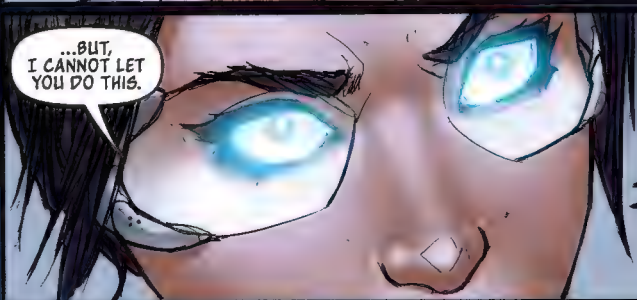
OPEN YOUR EYES. SHE HAS GIVEN ME A NEW PURPOSE. DIPLOMACY COULD NEVER HAVE WORKED. I'VE COME TO REALIZE THIS. HOWEVER...

WHAT MUST BE DONE.

...I ALWAYS HAD A BACKUP PLAN.



I AM SORRY IT HAS COME TO THIS, FYODOR...



...BUT, I CANNOT LET YOU DO THIS.



NINA... ALL THIS TIME... YOU ARE... LIKE ME?!

I AM NOTHING LIKE YOU. I WANT WHAT IS BEST FOR OUR PEOPLE.

YOU CONDESCEND AS IF I AM NOT PREPARED TO SACRIFICE MY LIFE FOR THE SAKE OF THE BLUE.



AND WHAT LIFE IS THAT EXACTLY, LUZHIN? THAT OF AN ORPHAN-- OR A DISSIDENT?



YOU
FOOL!

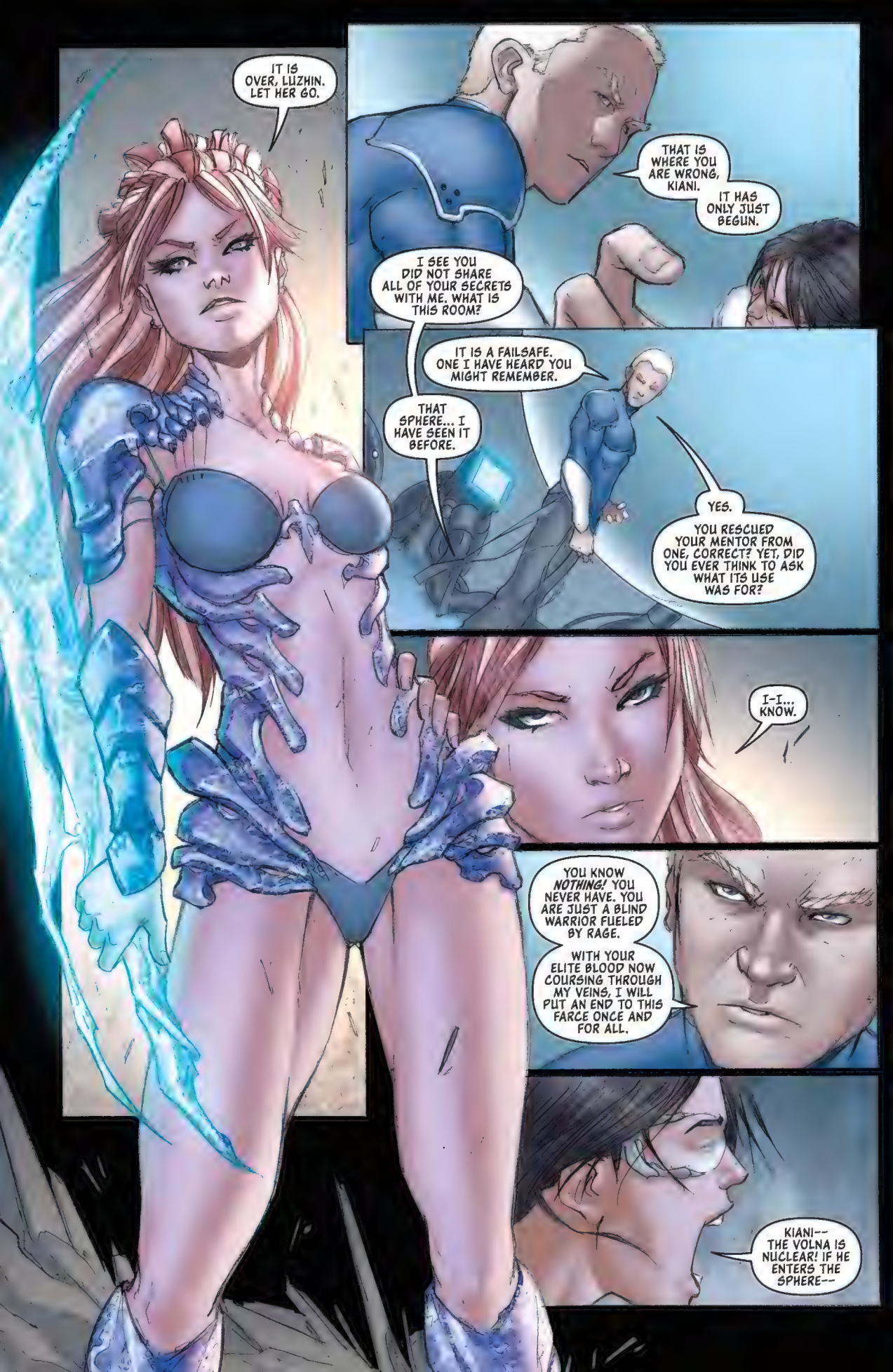
YOU KNOW
NOTHING OF WHAT
I HAVE GIVEN TO BOTH
RACES! OF WHAT I HAVE
ENDURED-- YOU SHOULD
HAVE KEPT YOUR SECRET!
I WOULD HAVE SPARED
YOUR LIFE!

-GGGGH!-

I CANNOT
STAND--

--LIARS!

KRAASH



IT IS OVER, LUZHIN. LET HER GO.

I SEE YOU DID NOT SHARE ALL OF YOUR SECRETS WITH ME. WHAT IS THIS ROOM?

THAT IS WHERE YOU ARE WRONG, KIANI.

IT HAS ONLY JUST BEGUN.

IT IS A FAILSAFE. ONE I HAVE HEARD YOU MIGHT REMEMBER.

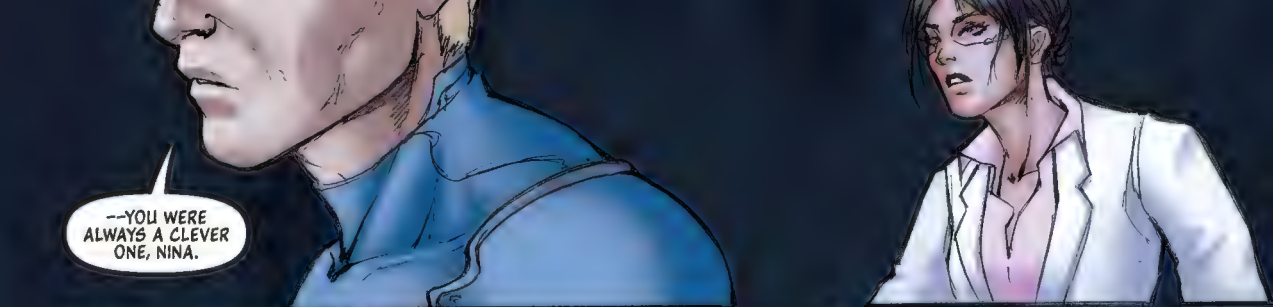
THAT SPHERE... I HAVE SEEN IT BEFORE.

YES. YOU RESCUED YOUR MENTOR FROM ONE, CORRECT? YET, DID YOU EVER THINK TO ASK WHAT ITS USE WAS FOR?

I-I... KNOW.

YOU KNOW NOTHING! YOU NEVER HAVE. YOU ARE JUST A BLIND WARRIOR FUELED BY RAGE. WITH YOUR ELITE BLOOD NOW COURSEING THROUGH MY VEINS, I WILL PUT AN END TO THIS FARCE ONCE AND FOR ALL.

KIANI-- THE VOLNA IS NUCLEAR! IF HE ENTERS THE SPHERE--



THE HUMANS HAVE
ADVANCED THEIR
TECHNOLOGY.

YES, THE... CANONS
BE THE PRODUCT OF A
BLUES' EXPERTISE.

KRRSSSH

SIMPLE ENOUGH

BREE BREE BREE

ANNNNNNN!



TARGET IS
SUSCEPTIBLE.
ENGAGE!

CHOOOM

CHOOOM

CHOOOM

CHOOOM

BZZZZZZT

TARGET
ERADICATED.

WHAT...?

HE'S STILL
ALIVE!!

EVACUATE THE
PERIMETER!

HUM
5

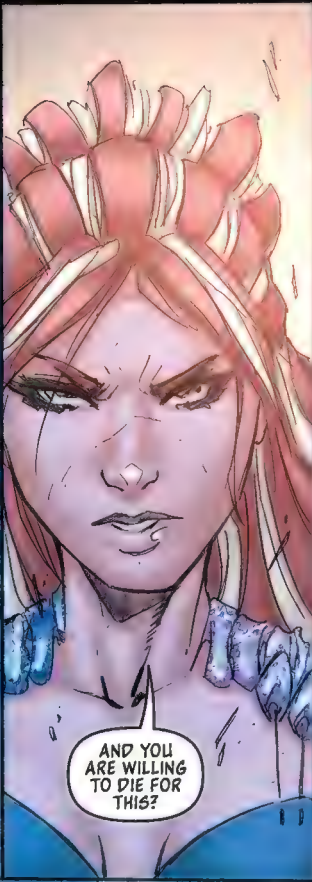
THEIR MISTAKE
WAS
NOT

THE
ALIVE
EVER

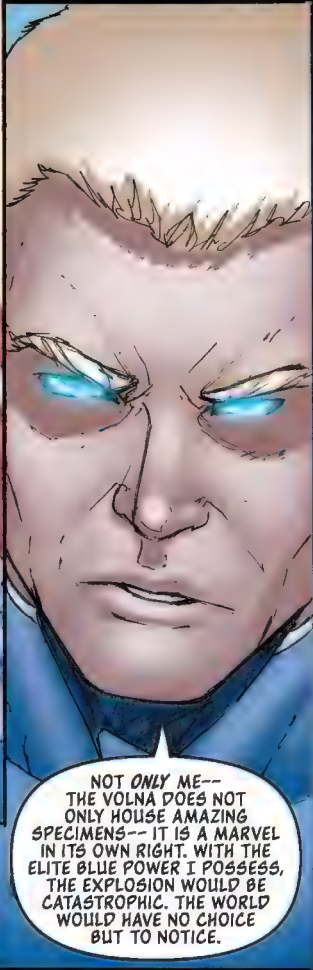


LUZHIN--
WE WILL NEVER BE
EQUAL. NO MATTER
HOW MUCH YOU TRY,
YOU HAVE TO ACCEPT
WHAT YOU ARE
NOT.

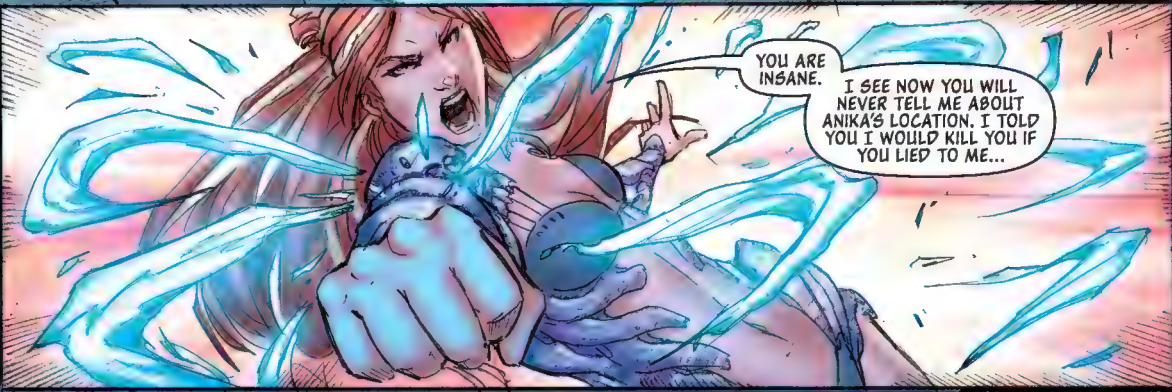
SCIENCE HAS
PROVEN YOU WRONG.
I HAVE PROVEN YOU WRONG!
ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE IF YOU
ARE WILLING TO SACRIFICE
EVERYTHING FOR IT.



AND YOU
ARE WILLING
TO DIE FOR
THIS?



NOT ONLY ME--
THE VOLNA DOES NOT
ONLY HOUSE AMAZING
SPECIMENS-- IT IS A MARVEL
IN ITS OWN RIGHT. WITH THE
ELITE BLUE POWER I POSSESS,
THE EXPLOSION WOULD BE
CATASTROPHIC. THE WORLD
WOULD HAVE NO CHOICE
BUT TO NOTICE.

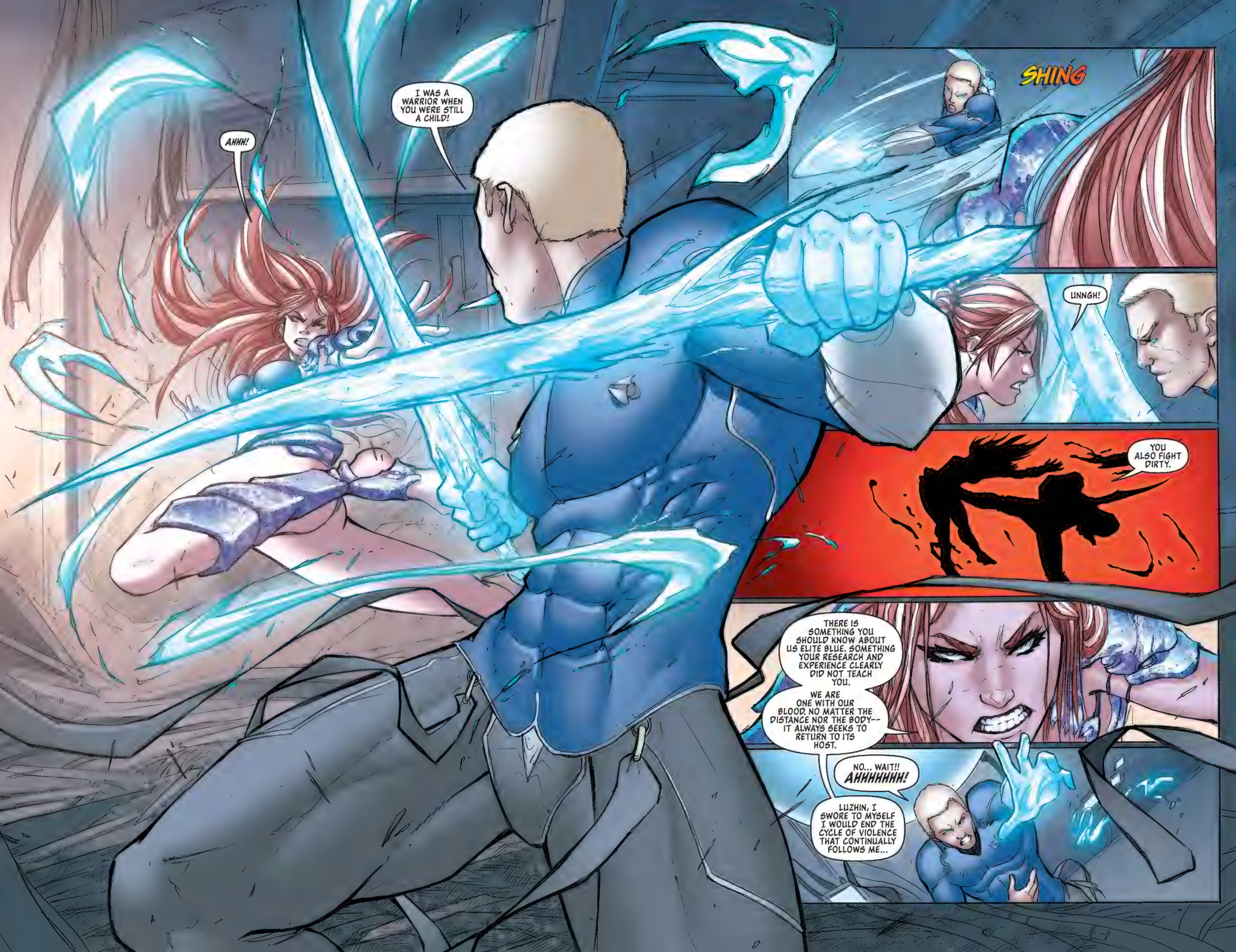


YOU ARE
INSANE.

I SEE NOW YOU WILL
NEVER TELL ME ABOUT
ANIK'S LOCATION. I TOLD
YOU I WOULD KILL YOU IF
YOU LIED TO ME...



...NOW, YOU
WILL SEE THAT
MY "WORD" IS
THE TRUTH.



AHHH!

I WAS A
WARRIOR WHEN
YOU WERE STILL
A CHILD!

SHING

UNNGH!

YOU
ALSO FIGHT
DIRTY.

THERE IS
SOMETHING YOU
SHOULD KNOW ABOUT
US ELITE BLUE. SOMETHING
YOUR RESEARCH AND
EXPERIENCE CLEARLY
DID NOT TEACH
YOU.

WE ARE
ONE WITH OUR
BLOOD NO MATTER THE
DISTANCE NOR THE BODY--
IT ALWAYS SEEKS TO
RETURN TO ITS
HOST.

NO... WAIT!!
AHHHHHHH!

LUZHIN, I
SWORE TO MYSELF
I WOULD END THE
CYCLE OF VIOLENCE
THAT CONTINUALLY
FOLLOWS ME...



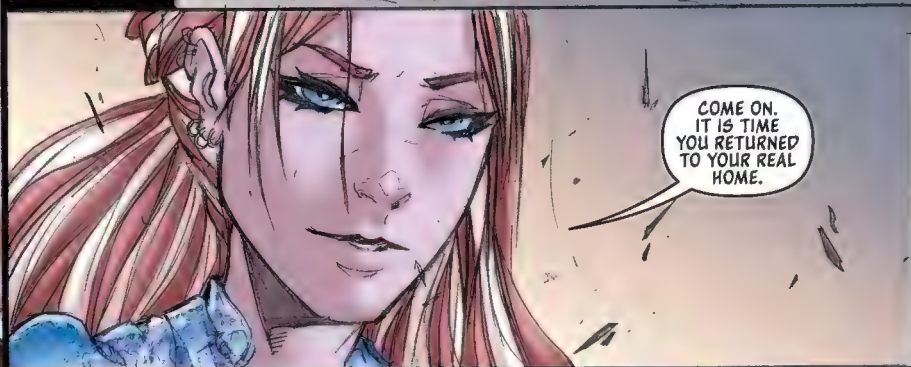


GODS...

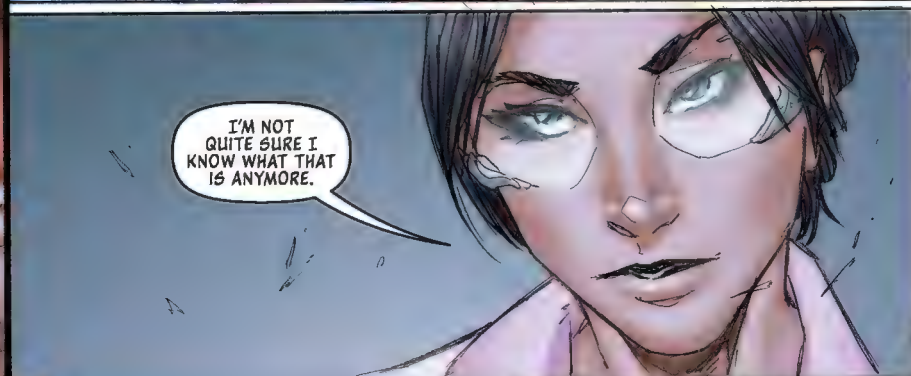


I AM
SORRY
YOU HAD TO
WITNESS
THIS.

I... I HAVE
SEEN WORSE.
IT IS YOU THAT
AMAZES ME.



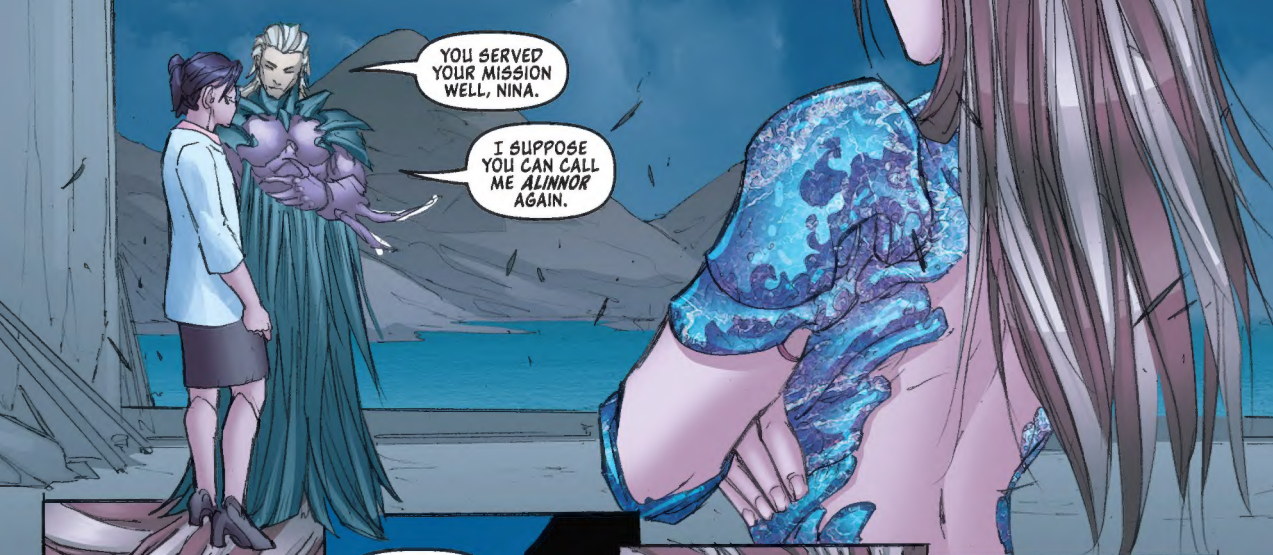
COME ON.
IT IS TIME
YOU RETURNED
TO YOUR REAL
HOME.



I'M NOT
QUITE SURE I
KNOW WHAT THAT
IS ANYMORE.

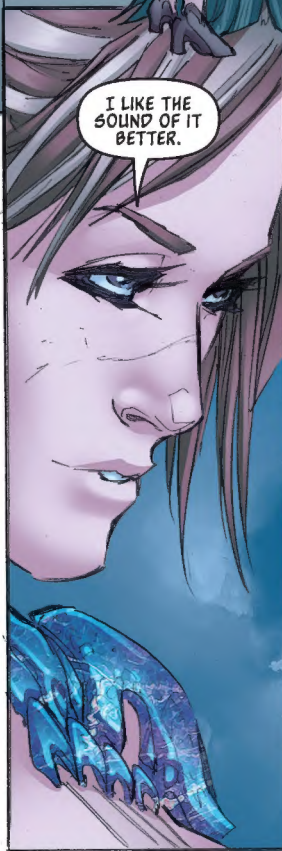


YOU
ARE NOT
ALONE.



YOU SERVED
YOUR MISSION
WELL, NINA.

I SUPPOSE
YOU CAN CALL
ME *ALINNOR*
AGAIN.



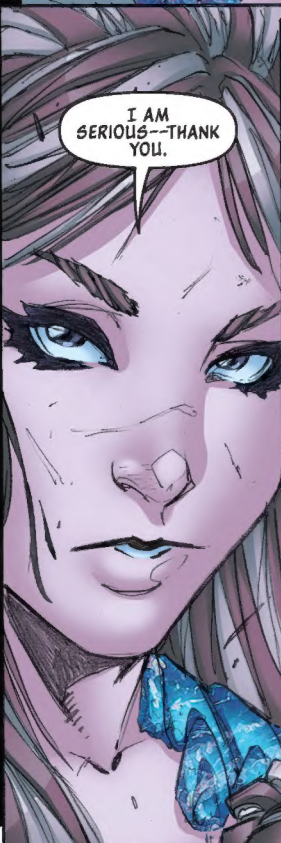
I LIKE THE
SOUND OF IT
BETTER.



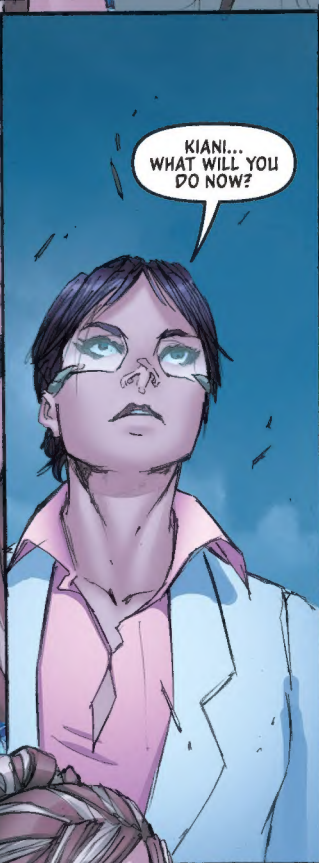
CASQUE...
I OWE YOU MY
GRATITUDE.

IS THAT YOUR
WAY OF THANKING
ME? A CLICHÉD
PLATITUDE?

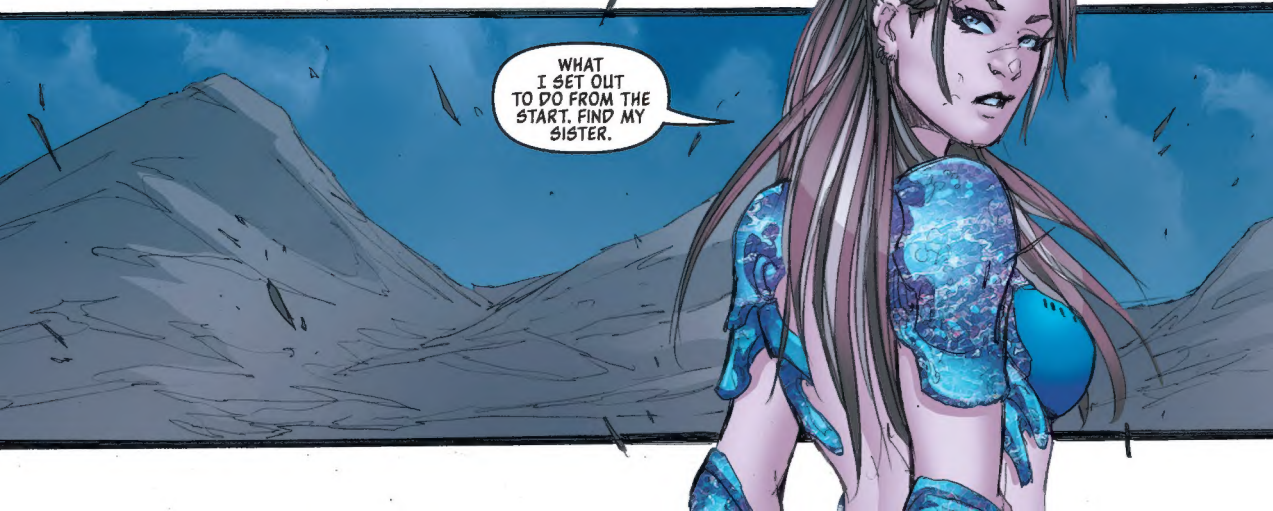
FUNNY.



I AM
SERIOUS--THANK
YOU.



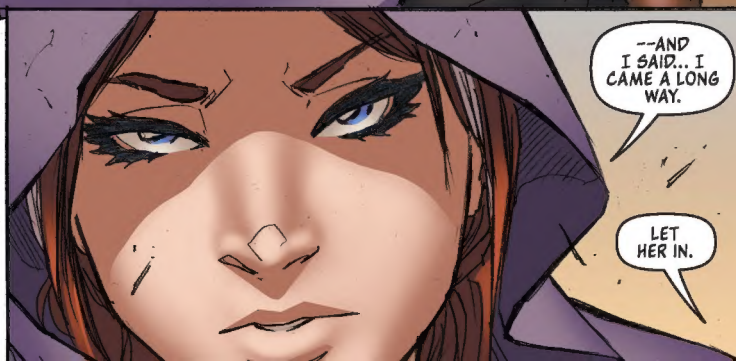
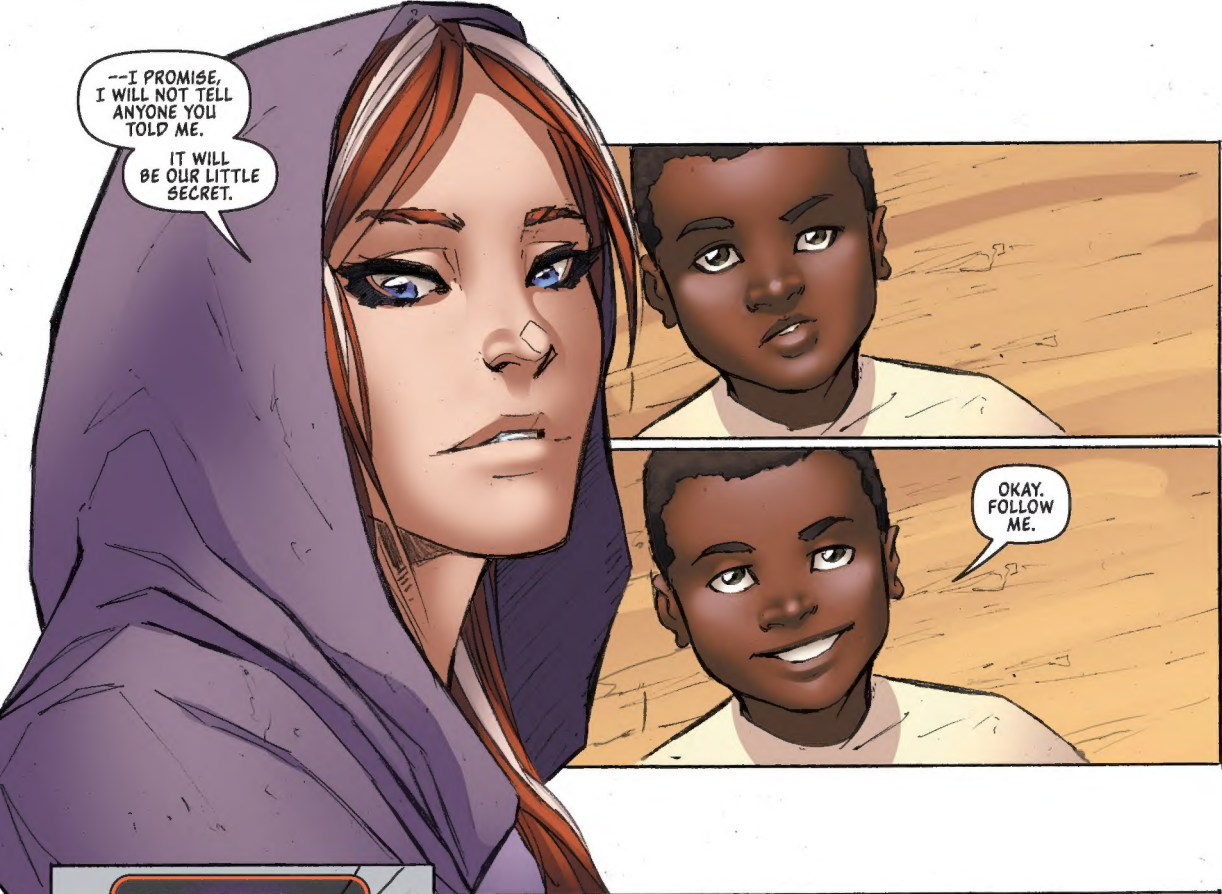
KIANI...
WHAT WILL YOU
DO NOW?



WHAT
I SET OUT
TO DO FROM THE
START. FIND MY
SISTER.

TWO MONTHS LATER.





WE HAVE NOT
SEEN A BLUE IN
THESE PARTS FOR
SOMETIME...
ALIVE.

ANIKA?!



THE END.